

- ✗ **Plain glass home** – this isn't a suitable home as hamsters require tunnels to crawl through and ladders to climb, as well as toys to stop them getting bored.
- ✗ **Full sunlight** – hamsters should be in a warm place but not too hot.
- ✗ **Apple** – a small amount of fruit is fine (a tiny piece once a week), but too much fruit can cause stomach upsets.
- ✗ **Plastic water bowl** – this could be knocked over. A bottle fixed to the cage would be easier to drink from and would keep the water clean.
- ✓ **Hamster pellets** – these are better than mixed food because where the food is mixed the hamster might just pick out the bits it likes best, and not have a varied enough diet.
- ✓ **Box to hide in** – the hamster needs somewhere where it can sleep and feel safe. If there are two or more hamsters the box should have more than one way out so that they can't trap each other.
- ✓ **Bedding material** – there should be plenty of soft bedding material. Shredded paper is good.
- ✗ **The family cat** – hamsters should be kept safe from other animals.
- ✓ **Ceramic food bowl** – this is good because it's not easy to knock over.
- ✓ **Carrot slices** – small quantities of fruit and vegetables are good for hamsters.
- ✓ **Chewing sticks** – hamsters need safe wood to chew so that their teeth don't grow too long.
- ✗ **Bare floor** – this should be lined and covered with wood shavings deep enough for the hamster to dig in. The cage should be disinfected using a pet-safe disinfectant each week.
- ✗ **Old hamster poo** – this should be scooped up each day.

