

# Miniature Pigs: Discovery



## Where did these guys come from?

Mini Potbellied pigs were first introduced to the western pet market in the 80's. These pigs are tiny in stature when compared to their farm swine counterpart. True miniature pigs from a reputable breeder should weigh well under 45 kgs. with some breeders producing lines that top out at 27 kgs or so. Compare this to the older standard or poorly bred (so called mini) pigs that grew to as much as 90 or a farm pig bred for the table that typically ways five times that of a mini pet pig and can tip the scales at 450 kgs.

## What should I feed my pig?

Keep in mind that a pig should get  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of food per 11 kgs of weight. So your little mini should get  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of food total in a day, split into two portions:  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup in the morning and  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup in the evening. Small treats are okay, especially in the beginning and for training purposes, but they should be limited to one cheerio or a quarter of a grape, etc. Green leafy vegetables such as spinach or kale are great snacks during the day. They should also be able to graze when possible, though keep in mind that this means more water consumption and therefore will need to urinate more often.

## Housing Requirements

You will need to have a pen set up for a new pig to settle into BEFORE it arrives. The pen will also need to have food, water, a bed and a toilet area. You should initially confine a new pig to a pen so that it can get used to its new surroundings and doesn't escape. Once your pig has settled in, you can let it out of its pen and it can have full access to your yard. It can be locked away in its pen at night or at other times you need to confine it BUT it should only be locked away in its pen for short periods after it has settled in. Its pen will become its home where it can go to eat, sleep, rest and have its own personal space! A pig also requires shade and a water or mud hole. Pigs do not handle heat very well, as they don't sweat, and need a water or mud hole to bathe in during the warmer months.

# Miniature Pigs: Discovery

---

What are miniature pigs used for?

---

What would you feed a miniature pig?

---

What breed of miniature pig are the ones used by Noahs Thoroughbred Racing Pigs?

---

When is miniature pig considered to be fully grown?

---

How long do they live for? \_\_\_\_\_

## FAST FACTS

### What Age is a Miniature Pig fully Grown?

Usually they reach their structural height in their second - 3 years of age. Then they fill out over **4 years old**.

### Why do Pigs Dig?

Pigs enjoy exploring throughout loose mulch to find worms and grubs. They will also usually have a nuzzle around their wallow area or in very sandy areas. This is a natural instinct.

### How long can I expect to have my mini pig?

Your pig will live for 12-15 years and will make one of the most loving and loyal pets you will have.