

## WARWICKSHIRE HEDGEHOG RESCUE

Foster Carer Requirements  
Supplementary Notes  
Last updated 4 June 2020

A few guidelines are given below. Speak to your Local Carer for further explanation.

1. Hutch. The hutch size depends on your budget and whether it will be kept indoors or outdoors. Indoor hutches are cheaper because they require no waterproofing. The hutch does not need an in-built sleeping compartment: a wine box functions just as well. The hutch will require a fine fly-screen mesh.
2. Rubber gloves. The general household type work well. To be worn always when handling hedgehogs, for your hygiene and theirs.
3. Newspapers. You will need plenty. Place three-layers of newspaper pages on the floor of the hutches. Shredded newspaper, not crosscut, is good for bedding. Wider strips of hand-shredded newspaper is more suitable for very small hedgehogs because they become entangled in machine-shredded newspaper. (Shredded printer paper should not be used because it has sharp edges.)
4. Disinfectant. Hutches should be cleaned daily with disinfectant. We have used 'Voodoo' from Hyperdrug and 'Virkon S'.
5. Kitchen Towel. These are used for cleaning the hutches.
6. Wine boxes. Empty wine cartons can be obtained from some supermarkets. They can serve as hedgehog sleeping quarters.
7. Bin liners. Waste material is generally burned in a garden incinerator or removed to the rubbish dump. We use large, black bin liners to collect the waste material.
8. Bowls. We use bowls to hold food and water for the hedgehogs.
9. Wet Food. Hedgehogs enjoy dog and cat food (not fish flavour or offal).
10. Dry food. Chicken flavour cat biscuits, coarse or ground, depending on the size of the hedgehog and number of hedgehogs being fed. Spike's Hedgehog Food and 'Wildthings Hedgehog Mix' are good products.
11. Measuring scales and record sheets to monitor the hedgehog's weight plus any comments.