

■ Wide circulation of draft for comment - Animal Ethics Committees - Animal welfare groups - National and international bodies - National and international experts



Guidelines for the Housing of Rats in Scientific Institutions Normal rat behaviours - Social - Nocturnal - Highly developed smell, hearing, touch - Use ultrasound - Range of movements - Play - Explore

Cage Design Floor Area - behavioural and physiological needs - compartmentalise living areas - preference tests - physical movements - shelter and rest - cage furnishings





In-cage Shelters

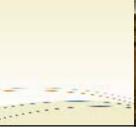
- Withdraw from light
- Aid thermoregulation
- Means of escape
- Wall hugging
- Climbing platform
- Use of nesting material





In-cage Shelter Recommendations

- Provide an in-cage shelter
- Ideally solid, opaque sides and roof
- Design to let rats climb onto the shelter roof





Future Directions Individually ventilated cages

