



What you Need:

What is A Sugar Glider:

Sugar gliders are adorable and social marsupials that can make great pets for the right owners. However, they also have specific needs and challenges that require proper care and attention. In this blog, I will share some tips and advice on how to care for your sugar glider.

1. Items Needed –

- a. [Cage](#) - Sugar gliders require a spacious cage featuring horizontal bars that facilitate climbing and jumping. The bar spacing should be a minimum of 1/2 inch to ensure they cannot escape. Many glider owners favor the Critter Nation cage due to its ample size and the option to expand it if necessary. The cage must provide sufficient space for food, water, toys, and sleeping pouches. It is also important to position the cage in a quiet, warm location, away from direct sunlight, drafts, and potential predators.

For the bottom of the cage, you can use newspaper or recycled paper that is non-toxic if ingested. Avoid cedar shavings, as these can cause respiratory irritation in sugar gliders. Personally, I prefer using non-peel fleece, but the choice ultimately depends on your preference. The most crucial aspect is to clean the cage and its lining with soap and water at least once a week, along with regularly washing the toys and accessories.

- b. [Bonding Gloves](#) – When you're beginning the process of bonding with your Sugar Glider, using a bonding glove can be incredibly beneficial. These specialized gloves are designed to create a safe and comfortable environment for both you and your gliders. The glove offers a layer of protection for your hands, which is particularly helpful in case your Sugar Glider feels anxious or threatened and decides to bite.

The texture of the glove can also provide a sense of security for your glider, making the initial interactions less intimidating. This way, they can explore and become accustomed to your scent and presence without feeling overly stressed.



What you Need:

Remember, building trust takes time, and using a bonding glove can make this experience smoother and more enjoyable for both you and your Sugar Glider.

- c. [Bonding Pouch](#) – Bonding pouches play a crucial role in establishing a connection with your new glider. They help the glider recognize you as a safe and trustworthy presence. However, it is essential to ensure that the pouch you choose is free from loose threads or any elements that could pose a risk of entanglement or injury to your new companion.

- d. [Cage Pouches](#) – Gliders require a warm and tranquil environment where they feel secure enough to sleep peacefully. It is essential to provide them with a cozy pouch that can be hung inside their cage, as this serves as their safe haven. The pouch should be made from materials that are glider safe such as anti-pill fleece, and cotton both safe and will ensure comfort and insulation. Positioning the pouch in a quiet corner of the cage will help create a serene space, allowing gliders to relax and recharge without disturbances. Regularly checking the pouch for cleanliness and loose threads will also contribute to their overall well-being.

- e. [Nail clippers](#) – Maintaining regular nail clipping for your glider is crucial for their safety and health. Weekly trims help prevent the nails from breaking or getting caught on fabric, which could lead to your glider becoming stuck or trapped in one place. Ensuring that your glider can move freely around the cage without the risk of getting caught is essential, as this can happen quite easily.

Most sugar glider owners use cuticle clippers to cut their glider's Nails along with a nail [clipping pouch](#) and some treats to keep the glider occupied while you're trimming their nails. Please watch the video I created [here](#) to see what works for me.

Trimming a sugar glider's nails requires patience and attention to detail. Their tiny nails can be hard to see, and they tend to wiggle, which can make the process challenging. If you ever feel unsure about trimming your glider's nails, it's



What you Need:

best to seek help from someone experienced who can either do it for you or guide you through the process. Additionally, it's important to have [styptic powder](#) on hand in case you accidentally trim too far.

- f. [Glass water bottle](#) – Water bottles can be tricky because many of them don't function well. They often leak or stop working altogether, which can lead to your Suggie becoming dehydrated. Therefore, it's essential to regularly check your water bottles to ensure they are working properly.
 - g. **Food Dishes** – I use two food dishes—one for dry kibble and one for their wet food, like “salad” or any other diet suitable for your glider.
 - h. **Wheel** – A safe wheel is important as well. Your glider needs a way to play and get exercise. The problem is most wheels although marked for sugar gliders are not safe for them. That is why we started making our own. 1 it was cheaper than the safe ones on amazon and 2 I knew it would be safe for my Gliders.
2. **Diet** – Sugar gliders are omnivorous, meaning they eat both plant and animal matter. They need a balanced diet of fresh fruits, vegetables, and protein, as well as calcium supplements and water. [Some examples of fruits and vegetables that are safe for sugar gliders are apples, bananas, grapes, melons, carrots, broccoli, and sweet potatoes. Some examples of protein sources are boiled eggs, cooked chicken, mealworms, and superworms.](#)

Avoid feeding your sugar glider foods that are high in fat, and sugar, such as nuts, corn, and seeds. These foods can cause obesity, dental problems, or digestive issues.

You can also offer your sugar glider healthy treats, such as yogurt drops, dried fruits, or honey sticks in moderation. Treats can help with bonding and enrichment, but they should not make up more than 10% of your sugar glider's diet.



What you Need:

When choosing a diet for your sugar glider, make sure to research it thoroughly, understand it, and ask questions. Diet is crucial for keeping your glider healthy, and if not done correctly, it can lead to health problems. There are many diets out there here are a few of them to consider:

- BML
- TPG
- HPW

3. Toys –

- Climbing toys:** Sugar gliders are natural climbers and love to explore different heights and angles. Climbing toys can provide them with physical exercise, mental stimulation, and fun. Examples of climbing toys are ladders, ropes, branches, and vines. I tend to make my own, but in a pinch, you can order safe toys from The Pet Glider.
- Chewing toys:** Sugar gliders have strong teeth and jaws that need to be exercised regularly. Chewing toys can help them maintain their dental health, reduce stress, and satisfy their instincts. Examples of chewing toys are cork, eucalyptus, wood, and cardboard.
- Foraging toys:** Sugar gliders are intelligent animals that need to be challenged and rewarded. Foraging toys can stimulate their curiosity, problem-solving skills, and hunting behaviors. Examples of foraging toys are cups, pouches, balls, and boxes filled with treats or other items.
- Hanging toys:** Sugar gliders are social animals that like to cuddle and sleep together. Hanging toys can provide them with comfort, security, and warmth. Examples of hanging toys are pouches, hammocks, tents, and blankets.
- Fidgeting toys:** Long chains hanging from the top of the cage provide hours of entertainment for my gliders. They enjoy grabbing the chains with their tails and wrapping them around



What you Need:

objects throughout the night. The next day, I unwrap everything, and once again, it starts over again.

If you're looking for some safe options for safe premade toys:

- [Houston Gliders](#)
- [The Pet Glider](#)
- [Critter Love](#)

Or you can do like me and have fun making your own.

Signature: _____

Date: _____