

**Important facts about mini pigs**

1. You typically have to be zoned for pigs, to determine whether or not you are zoned, you will need to research you county/city/providence/town to be sure it is legal for you to have a pet pig.
2. Pigs are like toddlers; they tend to get into everything and sometimes can be destructive.
3. Pigs require training. They do not know anything you haven’t taught them. In order to have a well-behaved pig, you must train you pig to be a well-mannered and behaved pig.
4. Pigs need to stay with their mother at minimum, 6-8 weeks. This is important for many reasons, but especially their overall well-being.
5. Pigs can live to be 15-20 years old. Some live longer, unfortunately, some live for a lesser amount of time.
6. Pigs are EXTREMELY intelligent. You must provide “enrichment” type activities for your pig.
7. Pigs need vet care. A vet should be established BEFORE you get a pig. Vets that treat pigs can be difficult to find and during an emergency is NOT the best time to try and locate one
8. Pigs grow bigger. Pigs do not stay piglet sized, teacup or micro pigs are NOT breeds of pigs. Mini is not a breed, but rather a class of pigs to separate them from their cousins, the farm pig.
9. There are a host of illnesses and diseases that pigs are susceptible to. Some can be deadly if not treated in a timely manner. Vaccinations are available or some of these more common illnesses.
10. Intact pigs do NOT make great pets. Please spay or neuter your pig. Not only does this eliminate the potential for reproductive tumors (which is often the case in older intact pigs) It also helps with a host of behavioral issues resulting from fluctuating hormones.
11. Pigs dig. That’s just what pigs do. They have a NEED for outside time. This time is important because the sunlight helps in the absorption of essential vitamins and minerals.
12. Pigs have hooves that normally need to be trimmed once or twice a year. Some will wear them down naturally, but the majority will need someone to trim them.
13. ALL pigs have tusks. Female tusks do not usually get as long as male pigs tusks. It is thought hormones play a big factor in the time/length of tusks in intact pigs.
14. Pigs do NOT do well with dogs and many pigs have been attacked an killed by dogs. NEVER-EVER leave them alone unsupervised. With the exception of horses, most pigs get along with other animals.
15. Pigs need to be given parasite control at least twice a year. These items can usually be bought over the counter at farming type stores.
16. Pigs do NOT “need” to be bathed, although for some of us, it is a necessity for pigs that live indoors.
17. Some pigs are rather vocal while others are fairly quiet. Each pig’s disposition is different though.
18. Aggression seems to be a common problem for pet pigs. Please do not rehome your pig because it has behavioral problems. These types of problems can be worked out normally.
19. There are lots of flowers, plants and vegetation that can be extremely toxic to your pig.
20. You should have a 1st aid kit at all times for your pig. We have a list of important items on our website so you can build a great kit to help you in emergencies.
21. In the US, there are rues you must follow in order for a pig to cross over the state line into another state. Know the rules before traveling with your pig. Not following these guidelines can be the difference between life and death.
22. Pigs do better in a pair, that’s not to say a single pig wouldn’t be great alone, but a pair of pigs is better for them. Introducing a new pig to the family needs to be done slowly to minimize fighting between the 2 of them. We have a page detailing how to do this properly.
23. Pigs need a diet made for pigs. Ideally there is mini pig feed accessible to you, but if there’s not, we have a section about natural foods that can be substituted to maintain a balanced diet.
24. Pigs do not stop growing longer and taller for 3-5 years. They will continue to gain weight as long as you’re feeding them too much food based on their activity level.
25. During the warmer months, pigs need a place to cool down such as a kiddie pool. In the winter, pigs need a structure to help keep them put of the cold weather/elements.
26. Overfeeding your pig can lead to obesity and obese pigs do not have a great quality of life. They can become fat blind, arthritic and even have heart disease. At the same time, starving a pig to keep them small is cruel and will be accompanied by health problems manifested as a result of malnutrition.
27. Pigs do not like to show weakness, when they’re sick; they tend to hide the early symptoms until the illness is advanced. KNOW your pig; know your pigs’ routine and habits so you are able to identify problems early on.
28. We have forms that can be downloaded to help you and your vet determine the ailment your pig is suffering from. Things you may forget or feel are unrelated may very well be the information your vet needs to make a diagnosis and treat your pig.
29. Homes need to be “piggy proofed” to be sure your pigs environment is suitable for a pig.
30. Pigs are relatively easy to train, but you must use positive reinforcement (treats work well) and be consistent with your training.

If you have ANY additional questions, please send them to us via email at minipiginfo@gmail.com or message us through our Facebook page- mini pig info.