

# Tips on teaching your ferret

## Four New tricks

The answer is yes... Yes you can teach your ferret to do tricks, much just like you would teach your dog some tricks. All you need to remember is that your furry little friend won't work to make you happy like your dog would. He'll work to please himself, a little selfish I know but what can you do?. Of course when I say he will work to please himself I mean he will work to get his stomach filled. That's right; I hope you brought your ferrets favorite treats.

### **Housetraining**

Although most people will not consider housetraining a ferret trick I think it is, especially if your goal is to get your ferret to always time after time use their litter box. It'll take quite a bit of time and energy on your part to encourage your ferret it is a good thing to use the litter box. Litter training is totally achievable, although ferrets do not logically take to it as well as a cat would. Providing a firm litter pan that can be tightly attached to the cage is the first step. To begin with keeping your ferret and its litter pan in a small region i.e. by putting the ferret in the cage you may have to block off part of the cage if you have a large space this will make a restricted space for the ferret to do it's... business. Part of the litter box must have a low down edge to allow the critter simple entrance; at the same time part of should be high walled because ferrets like to back into a corner and may miss the frame of a low pan. Do not keep it perfectly clean leave a little in the pan or put a small amount of "business" in the pan this will reinforce that this is the proper area (The idea is a small amount to much and the ferret will not even go close.). Leave the rest of the cage reserved for sleeping and feeding area. Before you take your ferret out of the cage make sure you give it a chance to relieve it's self before you go out and play, and have frequent litter box stops when you are out to reinforce the rule. Be sure to keep your eye on them to see if they look like they are going to go on the floor quickly get them to the litter box  
If you to see your ferret using the litter box properly, make sure to give them a tasty treat! On the other hand if you catch your ferret slipping up and going in the wrong spot, put them in the litter box you have to be quick though otherwise it will have no effect. Make sure that you never abuse or yell at your ferret they won't understand just put them in their proper place... the litter box. Once the ferret catches on you can place litter pans in the room(s) in which the ferret plays.

### **Getting you ferret to come when you call**

Having your ferret come to you when you call is a great trick, one that every owner needs to teach there ferret. You can train them to come when you call their name, a bell, knocking or any other sound you can think of.

This is what needs to be done. Make sure your ferret has already gotten some of its excess energy out with a little play time, this way he won't be so easily sidetracked. Hold them in your arm and get out your ferret treats. Now do the sound that you picked the one you want your ferret to come to, say for example you pick to call their name. Whenever you call their name give them a treat. Do this step a number of times, you could start with 10. Whenever you are trying to teach your ferret a trick make sure the lessons are short. It is supposed to be a game for your ferret. All you have to do now is do this training a number of times in one day. If you are lucky your ferret will catch on quickly, others ... will take longer, just keep patient. If your ferret gets disinterested you could try switching treats every so often.

After a couple of training sessions you can try leave your ferret on the floor near by while you call their name and give them a treat. Try to do this while your ferret is looking at you. Otherwise they may see something more interesting than you and wander off.

### **Sit Up Straight**

As inquisitive as ferrets are, this trick is one of the simplest tricks to teach your ferret. Start out by, taking a treat and gradually move it over the ferrets head starting from the nose and going toward the back of its head and even a little further. Your ferret will try to follow the treat with its snout, which means they will end looking up. This is perfect now keep working on it until they have mastered the trick. After some practice you will be able to add a voice command to the trick so you can simply say "up" and your ferret will do the trick awesome!

### **Roll Over**

Start out with your ferret lying on their stomach. Then, with a treat in one hand move the treat to the side of his head, lightly turn over your ferret so they are on their back with your other hand. Give them a belly rub and the treat.

You may want to give this a try by just moving the treat first and not rolling the ferret on its side. The ferret should roll over on its own as it tries to get the treat. Remember if your ferret is lazy and only moves his head don't give them a treat.

Keep working at this until your ferret gets it. The following step is to make it roll over the entire way. Instead of only finishing half, simply keep rolling your ferret until they are back the right way up and then give them a treat.

### **Important Tips When Training Ferrets**

- Teaching a ferret tricks takes a bit of time, patience and some work.**
- Separate the ferret tricks you want them to learn into easy manageable steps. Then teach the trick to them step by step, begin the next step when they know the first one and so on.**
- Only practice in a room which is familiar otherwise your ferret will begin getting curious and start wandering around.**
- Remember to keep the training sessions short and to reward every time.**
- Oh, and don't forget to send me a video of your ferret tricks at [My Ferret Care](#).**