

Handling

Handling your African Pygmy Dormice often and from a young age (2 weeks onward) is essential to establish a nice hand-tame Dormouse. Breeding pairs will typically still be quite timid and due to their speed and agility, you'll want to hold them carefully and in a safe and confined environment.

We recommend you use a tent to begin with, until you and your Dormouse have established a comfortable bond.

Pouches offer an alternative bonding method as well, just use caution as they are still very tiny creatures and you'll want to ensure it has plenty of ventilation.

Gently scoop up your Dormouse and allow them to climb on you and have free roam, maybe even hide in your shirt pockets. Scooping them is the ideal method.

Use gentle touch and strokes to adapt your Dormouse to being handled. Hand feeding treats (See Diet Post) can be a welcoming commodity as well.

NEVER grab your Dormouse, this can lead to an unwanted nip/bite into your hand, but also distrust of you.

NEVER grab your Dormouse by the tail, as they have the ability to drop/slip their tails off. This is a defense mechanism they use in the wild to escape their predators. However, DO NOT PANIC as they will heal up just fine. Please use extra care!