

Environment



ROOM TEMPERATURE

In the wild, hamsters are able to shield themselves from extreme temperatures in underground natural burrows, where they can maintain an optimal body temperature. However, pet or domesticated hamsters lost this ability and do best at temperatures between 65 and 75 degrees Fahrenheit.

65 F

Optimal Temperature

75 F

TOO COLD

- ✓ Below 65 F and close to 60 F.
- ✓ Going into a state of torpor, which is a form of hibernation, but more dangerous
- ✓ Body goes into an involuntary state of light sleep in order to preserve energy.

TOO HOT

- ✓ Above 75 F and close to 80 F.
- ✓ Get heat stroke, which can lead to death

SIGNS OF TORPOR

- Body looks limp and lifeless
- Unresponsive
- Cold to touch
- Breathing is slow that looks like gasps

SIGNS OF OVERHEAT

- Sleeping outside /laying in odd places in the cage
- Rough looking coat
- Very warm to touch
- Wobbly when awake
- Drinking more than usual

HOW TO AVOID

- Keeping the cage in a warm room, away from drafts and windows
- Provide deep, warm bedding
- Provide plenty of food and water
- Keeping a space heater in the room

- Keeping the cage in a cooler room, away from windows and direct sunlight
- Provide chilled ceramic tile/hideout
- Provide chilled veggies with high water content to prevent dehydration