

## House Mouse



House mice have an adult body length (nose to base of tail) of 3.0–3.9 inches) and a tail length (2.0–3.9 in.); the weight is typically 10–25 g. They vary from light brown to black, with short hair and a light belly. The ears and tail have little hair. The hind feet are short. They can jump up to 18 inches. The droppings are blackish, about 0.12 inches long, and have a strong musty smell. The voice is a high-pitched squeak.

Mice are mostly active during dusk or night; they do not like bright lights. They live in a wide variety of hidden places that are near food sources and construct nests from various soft materials. Mice are territorial and one dominant male usually lives together with several females and young.

House mice primarily feed on plant matter, but they will also accept meat and dairy products. They will drink water but require little of it, relying mainly on the moisture present in their food. They will eat their droppings to acquire nutrients produced by bacteria in their guts.



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