



Licking Valley Veterinary Services
Phone 859-472-4141
www.lickingvalleyvet.com

Pig Recommendations

Popularity of pet pigs is growing. This handout is designed to help one understand some of the basics required for pig care in hopes to educate one before buying a pig or help one to take care of their current pet pig.

A FEW NOTES ABOUT PIGS:

- Please check local zoning ordinances as not all areas allow pigs as pets.
- Pigs can be very loud and certain breeds can grow to sizes well over 200#.
- When you own a pig, even as it gets bigger, you must be able to restrain your pig for veterinary care or basic husbandry procedures.
- Pigs kept strictly inside do not always discontinue outside behaviors such as rooting.

VACCINES:

If your pig has never been vaccinated then an initial vaccine is recommended as well as a booster in 3-4 weeks. Otherwise, yearly vaccination with a combination vaccine is recommended. Please contact LVVS well before the desired need for vaccination as often these vaccines require special ordering as they are not kept in stock.

HOOVES:

Pig hooves will continuously grow if not worn down by the natural environment. Please familiarize yourself with what healthy pig feet look like. If the feet are looking “slipperd” or curling on the edges it is a good sign that the feet will need to be trimmed. Often pigs will need anesthesia to trim their feet. Keeping an environment with hard ground (such as gravel, concrete or blacktop) as well as the soft grass or carpeted area for the pig to walk on may eliminate the need for trimming.

PARASITE CONTROL:

Yearly fecals are recommended to check for parasites and yearly deworming with ivermectin injection at a dose of 1 cc / 75# in the muscle is recommended.

NEUTERING:

Neutering is removal of the male reproductive organs (testicles) to prevent male traits and future reproduction. They require general anesthesia. LVVS can complete this procedure at your home.

COMMON PROBLEMS:

Please prevent your pig from jumping off of the sofa or from any height. Pigs are not designed for jumping and these jumps can cause leg fractures. Providing ramps for your pig can prevent jumping. Pigs also will eat things they should not which can cause intestinal blockage. Please keep small toys or objects away from where you pig may swallow them.

NUTRITION:

Please contact Denny Gosney at Dixie Feed (859-654-1470) for feeding recommendations.