

COMPILATION OF MOUSE FACTS

1. You can keep mice on a table without a cage because mice are afraid to jump off vertical drops
2. Mice make their own vitamin C
3. Mice will nurse babies that are not their own
4. Mice do not have roots on their incisors
5. The name mouse comes from "mus", a Sanskrit word that means thief
6. Mice like to eat 15 to 20 times per day
7. Female mice can give birth when they are 2 months old and are able to have babies 6 to 10 times per year
8. Female mice can give birth to up to 12 babies every 3 weeks
9. A female mouse is called a doe
10. A male mouse is called a buck
11. A baby mouse is called a pinky (or pup)
12. Mice have tails that are as long as their bodies
13. Some mice do not have any hair at all
14. Mickey, and Minnie, Mouse were born in 1928
15. The average mouse lives one to two years
16. A full-grown mouse weighs between 0.5 and 1 ounce
17. The laboratory mouse originated from a mixture of *M.m. domesticus*, *M.m. musculus*, and *M.m. molossius* subspecies
18. Inbred strain definition: brother / sister mated for 20+ generations and can be traced back to a single ancestral pair
19. The mouse genome is ~2.8 million base pairs long
20. The mouse is ~20 grams in body weight (highly variable)
21. Mice can live up to 6 years in captivity
22. Mouse estrus cycle occurs every four to five days
23. A typical mouse has but one milliliter of blood per 20 grams of body weight
24. An adult mouse has a heart rate of 632 beats per minute (plus or minus 51 bpm)
25. The average water intake of a mouse is 5 milliliters in 24 hours
26. Like all rodents, the front incisors of mice never stop growing
27. Mouse urine gives a fluorescent glow that can be detected using a black light
28. Mice nest. They typically only travel up to 25 feet from their nest
29. Mice can see blue and yellow, but can't tell red from green (just like a color blind person)
30. Mice belong to the family Muridae, which contains 730 species, 150 genera, and 5 subfamilies
31. Mice are nocturnal
32. Mice are omnivores. They will eat almost anything
33. The average mouse lives 5 months in the wild due mainly to heavy predation
34. The Romans called rats *Mus maximus* (big mouse) and mice *Mus minimus* (little mouse)
35. In Spanish, "raton" stands for mouse, and "rata" stands for rat
36. Mice sniff 6 to 15 times per second when aroused or actively exploring
37. Mice estrus cycle lasts for ~12 hours and it occurs in the evening

38. Mice mating may be confirmed by the presence of a plug in the vagina up to 24 hours post copulation
39. Female mice housed together tend to go into anestrus and do not cycle
40. When exposed to a male mouse, female mice will go into estrus in about 72 hours
41. The average mouse gestation period is 20 days
42. New born mice weigh between 0.5 and 1.5 grams and are born with their eyelids and ears closed
43. Mice pups are weaned at 3 weeks of age. Weaning weight is between 10 and 12 grams
44. Tell newborn male mice from females by the greater anogenital distance and larger genital papilla in the males
45. Some mice may play dead if they are frightened and cannot quickly escape
46. Unlike rats, mice show no dislike to new items
47. Mice constantly leave droppings in the areas they frequent
48. Mice originated in Asia
49. The Hindu god Ganesha rides a mouse
50. According to some cultures, if you dream about mice you are doing to die soon
51. A mouse can jump down 12 feet without injury
52. Mice see best in dim light
53. Mice are considered the third most successful mammal on Earth; after humans and rats
54. Mice have between 20,000 and 25,000 genes, the same as humans
55. A female mouse can produce over 100 mice per year
56. Baby mice curl up when they are being carried
57. Mouse tails have scales that help during climbing
58. Contrary to popular belief, mice are exceptionally clean
59. Zebra mice actually exist: they have stripes marking their fur