



## The Wheeky<sup>®</sup> Treat Ball Training Guide



We hope the Wheeky<sup>®</sup> Treat Ball brings you and your pet hours of enjoyment. Some pets will instinctively "get" how to use the ball right away, while others will need a little training. If you have more than one pet, work with them one at a time until they seem to understand the basics of how to play with the ball. Also, make sure you don't overfeed your pet! Remember, that adult guinea pigs only need 1/8 cup (2 TBL) of kibble per day. So be sure you keep track of how much they are eating.

## "Help! What if my pet doesn't show any interest in playing ball?"

- 1. Choose a small treat that your pet really enjoys, such as kibble, dried pea flakes, or finely diced carrot, and put some into the treat ball (not too much, though!). Make sure the size of the treat is small enough to fall easily from the opening.
- 2. Start by shaking the ball and giving your pet a treat. Do this a few times, so that it gets their attention. Soon, your pet will start to associate the shaking noise with treats.
- 3. Make sure the closure on the ball is wide open to start. Place the ball on the floor with the closure underneath, so that treats will fall out easily.
- 4. Put the ball on the ground in front of your pet. Take a small piece of diced vegetable or other treat, and place it on top of the ball. After your pet eats the treat, then put a treat in front of and behind the ball. Also, if they touch the ball at all, give them a treat. Do this for four or five times until they seem to understand that touching the ball means that treats will appear.
- 5. Encourage your pet to nudge the ball. You may need to keep hiding treats on top or or behind the ball until he/she understands that moving the ball will make treats appear. You may also want to try different treats to see which one they like best.
- 6. Eventually, your pet will figure out that Wheeky<sup>®</sup> Treat Ball = Food + Fun.

Please make sure you wash the ball regularly by hand and let it air-dry with the closure in the open position.

Share your pets with us on social media!