

Maximum Housing Densities for Rat and Mouse Cages

- 1) **Maximum mouse housing densities for a standard mouse shoebox cage:**
 - a) 4 mice (over 35grams)
 - b) 5 mice (<= 35grams)
 - c) 2 adults with 1 litter, regardless of the number of pre-weanling pups.

- 2) **Maximum rat housing densities for a standard #3 rat shoebox cage, 140 sq in:**
 - a) 1 rat > 500-1000 grams*
 - b) 2 rats 400-499grams
 - c) 3 rats 300-399grams
 - d) 4 rats 200-299grams
 - e) 5 rats 100-200grams
 - f) 8 rats < 100grams
 - g) 1 adult rat with 1 litter of pups until weaning age

- 3) **Maximum rat housing densities for #4 tall shoebox cage 212 sq in:**
 - a) 2 rats > 500grams*
 - b) 3 rats 400-499grams
 - c) 4 rats 300-399grams
 - d) 5 rats 200-299grams
 - e) 6 rats 100-199grams
 - f) 10 rats <100grams
 - g) 2 adult rats with 1 litter of pups until weaning age

- 4) **Maximum rat housing densities for Techniplast double decker cage 155 sq in bottom, 125 sq in. upper deck totaling 280 sq in**
 - a) 2 rats > 500grams*
 - b) 3 rats 400-499grams
 - c) 4 rats 300-399grams
 - d) 5 rats 200-299grams
 - e) 6 rats 100-199grams
 - f) 10 rats <100grams
 - g) 2 adult rats with 1 litter of pups until weaning age

- 5) **Maximum rat housing densities for Allentown NexGen 1800 cage, 280 sq in and T-2000 cage 310 sq in:**
 - a) 3 rats > 500grams*
 - b) 4 rats 400-499grams
 - c) 5 rats 300-399grams
 - d) 6 rats 200-299grams
 - e) 7 rats 100-199grams
 - f) 13 rats <100grams
 - g) 2 adult rats with 1 litter of pups until weaning age

** Larger animals may require additional space to meet the performance standards. Husbandry personnel may move adult rats to larger cages to meet performance standards*

Acceptable Adult Mouse Housing

4 Mice Per Cage if Greater than 35g

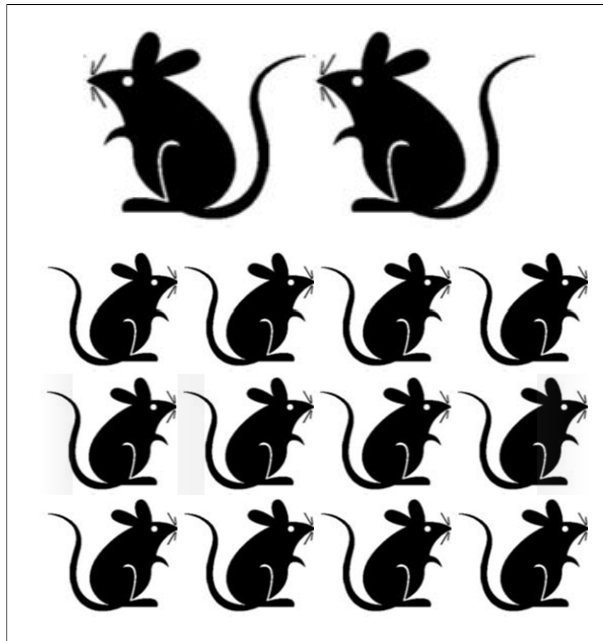


5 Mice Per Cage if Less than or equal to 35g



Breeding Cages

2 Adults and 1 Litter



In order to prevent overcrowded cages, ULAM is required to separate any unweaned litters on day 22 post birth. Due to broad variability between strains, ULAM cannot guarantee 100% accuracy in the sexing of mice at this separation. Laboratory personnel are encouraged to either wean litters themselves or to validate separations performed by ULAM.*

**Exceptions for delaying weaning for unusually small pups or other special circumstances may be approved by the IACUC or ULAM.*