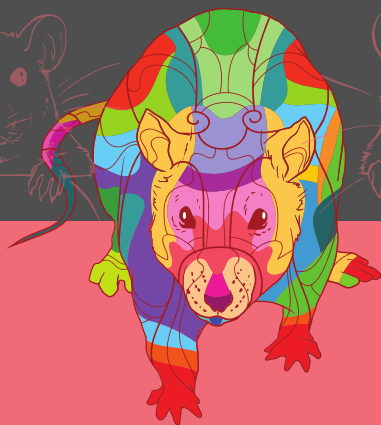


# Using Positive Enforcement to Train Your Rat

And Why Positive Reinforcement is the ONLY way to train



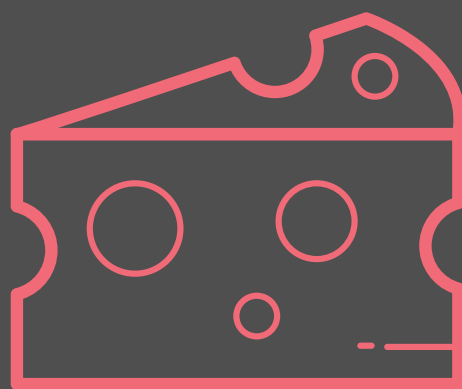
Positive Reinforcement means rewarding behaviors you want to encourage

Food is the #1 motivator for rats, which makes positive reinforcement easy and successful!



When your rat offers a behavior you want to encourage, give them a treat right away!

The faster they receive the treat after engaging in the behavior, the quicker they will associate the behavior with the reward.



Use a marker to communicate to your rat that they did something right

A click of the tongue, a "yes!" or anything you can do quickly and consistently without scaring your rat, followed by a treat. This helps them figure out what it was that earned them the treat and eventually you will not need to give a treat every single time and your marker can be rewarding.



Never use punishment or pain in an attempt to train your rat

Inflicting pain or causing fear will encourage your rat to be afraid of you. It will not make them understand what you want from them, they will only see that you act scary sometimes.

Use a variety of high-value treats to keep training fun

A lick of yogurt off your finger, a small piece of cheese, chopped bananas, baby Puffs, etc.



Happy rats learn faster and retain training better

Training becomes fun when they get a tasty treat for doing something right!

Check out "Shadow The Rat" on Facebook for great examples of training utilizing positive reinforcement!