

# Shady Hollow Ferretry

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Shady Hollow Ferretry was established in 1982. Since then, I have produced and maintained over 60 Best In Show winners! Shady Hollow is best known for my Black Sables. Most of Shady Hollow's Best In Show winners have come from the Black Jack line and have been winning awards since 1989. My ferretry is run out of my home.

I am Shady Hollow's proprietor, my name is Sally Heber. I work with the American Ferret Association (AFA), I am an AFA Senior licensed Judge. As a reputable ferret breeder, Shady Hollow's goal is to continue to learn about the ferret and to apply that knowledge to breed for the best health, temperament, longevity, intelligence and conformation. I have visited England and Australia and hand selected breeder ferrets from both countries and have incorporated them in to the Shady Hollow genetic lines. The intent is to bring in a diversity of genetics that display the traits that are consistent with the breeding goals that I set for Shady Hollow. The English ferrets are very lively and they happily pass this along to their kits. The American lines are very selectively bred, showing distinctive features such as the large eyes, the full, broad, deep head conformation along with a very sturdy bone frame.

An experienced breeder is the best source for a well-bred, healthy ferret. To begin with, breeders carefully select the parents of each litter to emphasize desirable attributes and minimize faults in their progeny. Breeders are committed to improving breed soundness--that is, physical and mental health--with every new generation.

Adopting your ferret kit from a private breeder allows you to meet the dam (mother) of the kits and many times, the sire (father) too. This can help you see what temperament, structure and size your baby may have.

Another advantage to adopting from a private breeder is that you always have access to someone to talk to about ferret related issues. I expect my clients to stay in touch and contact me if they have ANY questions, concerns, or problems relating to their ferrets, or to just update me on how their ferrets are doing. A breeder needs to know about their ferrets in order to make decisions relating to their genetic lines. Data on each ferret is tracked and recorded.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### When are baby ferrets available?

Ferrets are very keyed into photo-periods. When the day starts to get longer, the ferrets start to cycle into season. This goes for the hobs (males) as well as the jills (females). For this reason, I only have ferret kits (babies) available from the late Spring to early Fall.

### Are they neutered or spayed?

I do not recommend neutering or spaying a ferret until they are at least 7 months old. Ferrets are quite dependent on their hormones to develop as they were intended. Ferrets, like many other members of the mustelidae family are sexually dimorphic. This means there is a noticeable difference in the size between the males and the females. Males are 2 - 2 1/2 times larger than the females and the two genders develop some different physical characteristics. Keeping their hormones until they are 7 months or older is important to allow this development to occur. For ferrets that are being purchased as a pet and not a breeder, the contract between you and I that you will need to sign states that you will not breed the ferret and you will have the ferret neutered or spayed by the time they reach a certain age, usually 7 months. You will be expected to send a copy of the veterinary documentation for the neuter / spay to me for proof of fulfilling this part of our

agreement. Almost all ferrets that are 8 months of age or older that I offer for adoption will already be spayed or neutered before placing them in a new home.

### Are they vaccinated?

The degree of vaccination will depend on the age of the ferret. If you pick up your baby prior to 14 weeks of age, I will have given them their first Canine Distemper (CDV) vaccination(s). If you pick them up at 15 1/2 weeks or later, they will have their full series of CDV vaccinations but not their rabies vaccination yet. They will need a yearly booster of CDV & rabies each year on the anniversary of their last vaccinations. Older ferrets will be fully vaccinated.

### At what age can I take one home?

The earliest that I will allow a ferret baby to go to his or her new home is 9 weeks of age. Each baby is evaluated by me to be sure they are ready to go before I will release them to their new family.

### Choosing your new companion:

You can read the descriptions provided on my web page and review the pictures of the babies that have been born and pick one from there. Or, you can contact me and tell me what traits are important to you and I can pick one for you. I haven't had a disappointed client yet with my picks! I do ask that if you are picking for yourself, you have a first and second choice. I do not make my litter picks until the babies are big enough to make some determinations about size and structure. Also, if you would like to visit the ferretty to make your pick, that is fine. Contact me to schedule an appointment for your visit. I ask that you please do not bring any ferrets or other animals with you for safety and sanitation reasons.

It is important that I get some information about you so I can better advise you in selecting the right ferret which is the reason I ask that each adopting client fill out an application. I do not ship my ferrets so you must either come to the ferretty to pick up your baby or you can pick up your ferret from me at one of the shows I will be attending. For folks picking up their babies at a show, please note that babies under 16 weeks of age are not allowed in a show hall so other arrangements may be needed if the baby is younger than 16 weeks.

### How to purchase

I do not take any deposits for babies that are not yet born. Deposits are refundable in almost every circumstance. After you have made your choice(s), you will need to make a deposit to reserve your baby(ies). The deposit is a minimum of \$75 per baby. You can continue to check back with my web pages to get news of their development or to see updated photos. If you wish to change your selection even after you send in a deposit, this can usually be done with no problems. Babies are sold intact (meaning not spayed or neutered) and it is the responsibility of the new owner to get this procedure done by the agreed upon time.

### Prices

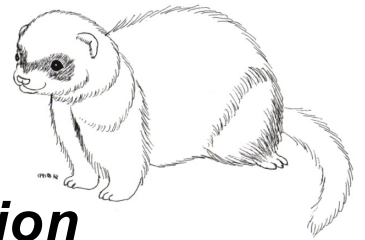
The prices of the kits will differ based on genealogy and if the ferret will be bred or not. Ferrets that are purchased as breeders will have a higher price than those purchased as a pet. To get an idea of price ranges, please check out prices for past litters on my webpages or by calling or emailing me.

### Adoption Contract

Each ferret that is adopted must have a completed and signed adoption contract prior to the ferret going to their new home. This contract is an agreement between the buyer (you) and the seller (me). It states that the buyer will properly care for the ferret, feed the ferret proper food, get the proper vaccinations, will not transfer ownership of this ferret to another party, will not breed this ferret and will have the ferret neutered or spayed by a stated date or time period.

### Guarantee

My babies come with a health guarantee that states I will replace the kit if he/she dies from a genetic related cause within the first year. The determination must be made by a licensed veterinarian.



## **Ferret Placement Information Application**

It is important that I get some information about you so I can better advise you in selecting the right ferret. Please take a few minutes and complete this placement information application.

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

What kind of dwelling do you live in?

- House     Duplex     Townhouse/Condo     Apartment     Dorm

Do you:     Own     Rent     Live with parents

Are you 21 years of age or older?     Yes     No

Are their children in your household?     Yes     No    If yes, ages: \_\_\_\_\_

How many pets do you own?     None     1-5     6-10     11+

What kind of pets do you currently own?

- Dog     Cat     Ferret     Rodent     Reptile     Rabbit     Bird

Fish     Other: \_\_\_\_\_

What kind of pets have you owned in the past five years?

- Dog     Cat     Ferret     Rodent     Reptile     Rabbit     Bird

Fish     Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Of the pets you have owned but no longer have, what happened to them?

\_\_\_\_\_

Have you taken your pets to the veterinarian for any reason in the past five years and why?

\_\_\_\_\_

Have you read any books about ferrets/ferret ownership?     Yes     No

If yes, which ones: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you subscribe to any ferret Internet mailing lists?     Yes     No

If yes, which ones: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you browsed the Internet to find any sites about ferrets?  Yes  No  
If yes, which ones: \_\_\_\_\_

How old do you think ferrets live to be? \_\_\_\_\_

Which veterinarian/veterinary hospital will you be using for the ferret(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

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Ferrets need to be fed a high-quality ferret food or a carefully prepared meat diet for optimal health.  True  False

Ferrets need fresh water at all times preferably from a water bottle.  True  False

Ferrets should be provided with a litter box in and out of the cage.  True  False

Ferrets should be provided with a pelleted wood or paper litter.  True  False

Ferrets should not be housed on any wood shavings.  True  False

Ferrets need a hammock, sleep sack or old sweatshirt to sleep in.  True  False

Ferrets need safe toys to play with, nothing with latex or rubber.  True  False

Ferrets need annual vaccinations for rabies and canine distemper.  True  False

Ferrets never need to be tested for Aleutian Disease Virus (ADV).  True  False

Ferrets need daily interaction with their human companion.  True  False

Ferrets should be caged or in a ferret safe room when not supervised.  True  False

Any pet should not be left unsupervised in the presence of young children or any individual who cannot remove him/herself from that pet's presence.  True  False

This is a lifelong commitment and I understand the ferret I am purchasing today may live 10 or more years.  Agree  Disagree

I will provide all necessary medical care for the life of this ferret.  Agree  Disagree

If for any reason I can no longer keep the ferret, the ferret will be returned to Shady Hollow Ferretry and will not be given or sold to another party.  Agree  Disagree

I agree to all terms and conditions for acquiring a Shady Hollow ferret.  Agree  Disagree

# Shady Hollow Ferretry

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## Terms & Conditions for Acquiring a Ferret from Shady Hollow Ferretry

The Adopter(s) will:

- Love and care for the Ferret(s) in such a manner to ensure it (them) a happy, healthy life;
- Feed the Ferret(s) a high-quality, high protein diet such as (but not limited to) Totally Ferret ferret food, 8 in 1 ferret food, Iams kitten or adult cat food, Purina Pro Plan growth or maintenance;
- Ensure that the Ferret(s) receives the proper vaccinations (vaccines that are USDA licensed for use in ferrets) and medical attention necessary to safeguard its health;
- Provide the Ferret(s) with the attention, exercise and discipline necessary to maintain a healthy, happy pet;
- Allow the Seller first opportunity to reacquire the Ferret(s) should the Purchaser no longer desire to keep the Ferret(s);
- Agree to spay or neuter the Ferret(s) before it is 7 (seven) months of age or within \_\_\_\_\_ months of the date of purchase. At no time will the Ferret(s) be bred. Proof from a licensed veterinarian must be sent to the Seller within 15 days past the agreed upon date asserting that the Ferret(s) has been spayed or neutered. If proof is not received by the stated date, the Adopter agrees to pay an additional \_\_\_\_\_ to the Seller;
- sale or transfer of ownership of ferret to a third party is strictly prohibited without prior consent of Shady Hollow Ferretry.
- At no time will the ferret be descented, declawed, or have canines/incisors removed unless for a medical reason, or if discussed with Shady Hollow Ferretry first.

Shady Hollow Ferretry cannot and does not make any representations or guarantees, either expressed or implied, as to the temperament, habits, or background of the ferret being sold. Therefore, in consideration of receiving the ferret, the purchaser hereby releases Shady Hollow Ferretry from any and all claims of liability for actions of the ferret purchased.