

Potbellied Pig Resources

Potbellied pigs are intelligent and sensitive creatures who need proper care and attention from their people. If you are going to care for potbellied pigs, you'll need to educate yourself about their care and behavior so you'll have healthy and happy piggy pets. In too many cases, folks think that potbellied pigs can be cared for just like farm or market pigs. It is important to remember that hogs and pigs being raised for meat are generally not well cared for; the goal is to get them as fat as possible as quickly as possible.



Please read up on how to care for potbellied pigs and encourage other people with potbellied pigs to do the same. Here are some recommended sources of information about potbellied pigs:

- Shepherd's Green Sanctuary in Cookeville, Tennessee, is a lifetime care facility for pigs that also has an outreach program to provide support and guidance to people with pigs. Their website (www.9sites.com) has excellent resources.
- The California Potbellied Pig Association (www.cppa4pigs.org) covers lots of topics on their website, including dealing with aggression, instructions on harness training, enrichment and pig diseases. Their tagline is "Take two pigs and call me in the morning."
- Pig Pals Sanctuary (www.pigpalssanctuary.com) in Worden, Illinois, also has good detailed information on their website about health care and issues of concern to potbellied pig people. Check out "Horrors! You Have a Sick Pig" and "Zoning: The Do's and Don'ts."
- Pigs4Ever (www.pigs4ever.com) provides information for pig people, but you can also shop for piggy products on the site.
- Pig Harmony (www.pigharmony.com) in Acton, California, is another potbellied pig sanctuary that you might want to check out.
- If you want some hands-on experience with potbellied pigs, Ironwood Pig Sanctuary (www.ironwoodpigsanctuary.org) near Marana, Arizona, is a great place to volunteer.

Thank you for caring about potbellied pigs!

Yvonne McIntosh is the potbellied pig specialist, adoption coordinator and manager for Best Friends Animal Society. If you have questions related to anything piggy, please send an e-mail to yvonnem@bestfriends.org.