

## HOW CAN WE HELP?

We can help by not hunting Chinchillas and by stopping the trades for Chinchilla fur. We can also help by taking better care of their habitat.



### Sources Sited

<http://www.chinchillas.com/>

<http://happychinchillaguide.com/>

<http://www.chechinchillas.com/colors.html>

<http://www.thegnawtychinchilla.com/>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Chinchilla\\_-\\_croquis\\_comparatif.svg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Chinchilla_-_croquis_comparatif.svg)

<http://www.petworldstore.com/products/?d=5>

# CHINCHILLA



-Alyssia 2011

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## CHINCHILLA FACTS

The Chinchilla is classified as a rodent or a mammal. The Chinchilla lives in the high colonies in the Andes mountains of western South America.

The name Chinchilla means little Chinchilla named after the Chinchilla people of the Andes mountains. At the end of the 19th century Chinchillas are now rare and endangered. In nature Chinchillas live in social groups that resemble colonies but are properly called herds.

The Chinchilla is an agile jumper, it can jump up six feet high. The Chinchilla's diet includes plants, seeds, and small insects. The Chinchilla has many defense methods including releasing fur if bitten by predators. There two species of Chinchillas. There is the Chinchilla, Chinchilla and the Chinchilla lanigera both endangered but the Chinchilla, Chinchilla is currently facing extinction.

## DESCRIPTION

The Chinchilla has long back legs to help it achieve its large jumping height range. The Chinchilla has padded feet and short grasping forelimbs and sharp nails.

The Chinchilla has blue-gray fur . The Chinchilla also has big ears, big eyes, and a big bushy tail. The Chinchilla has sensory whiskers and vertical pupils. The Chinchilla is born only about two inches long, these are one of the smallest mammals in the world.



## WHY ARE THEY ENDANGERED?

Chinchillas are endangered because people hunt the Chinchilla, Chinchilla and the Chinchilla lanigera for the fur the Chinchillas have on their body.

People use the Chinchilla's fur to make coats, scarves, and even blankets. Over the last ten years the chinchillas population has declined 80%.

It takes 100 Chinchillas to make one full sized coat it is so sad to think that many Chinchillas are being hunted at a time and also how many coats have already been made.

Another reason Chinchillas are endangered is the predators in the wild. These include birds of prey, skunks, felines, snakes, and canines including foxes, coyotes, and wolves.