Shows
There are rodent clubs and societies in towns and cities throughout the world. The national organizations hold shows for standard breeds and pedigree mice and rats. A standard mouse and rat must have the correct body shape, coat and markings for its particular variety. Specialist magazines give details of forthcoming shows.

The animals must be in top condition and perfect health to enter a show. They are judged on their general condition and ease of handling.

You can show a pet mouse or rat in its own cage. A standard mouse or rat must be exhibited in a special show cage called a “maxey cage”. You can buy maxey cages at your local pet store.

During the journey to and from the show, put the cage inside a strong, well-ventilated wooden carrying box.

Before your rat or mouse is judged, you can put it into a special grooming box. This box has fresh hay and sawdust inside it. The animal runs through the sawdust, which dries its fur, and then runs through the hay, which polishes it.

If you gently stroke the animal with a piece of real silk, you will put a shine on its coat. Use a very soft baby brush, to put a shine on long-haired mice.