

THINGS TO DO WITH YOUR MICE

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If you only have one, develop the voice
(colatura soprano if you have a choice)
and remember to keep the air moist.

Two mice can waltz to a Strauss
on a stage scaled down for a mouse,
dressed in tights and a cavalier's blouse.

Small tables can be gotten for three
with settings for English high tea,
using delicate china from the river Yangtze.

If you have four, they can fly in formation
and write in the sky some clever notation.
You can have them speak on mouse aviation.

Five mice can form a quintet,
four on strings with one clarinet.
Something by Mozart, a nice minuet.

Six would be perfect for poker
—aces high with one wild joker.
Just the best players, none mediocre.

Seven could be fitted with bathing caps
for synchronized swimming or just doing laps.
But mind their lips, which could easily chap.

If you want them to juggle, and you have, say, just eight,
have four tossing pins and four spinning plates
while riding mouse cycles or skating on skates.

But if your mice speak French, and you have at least nine,
you might think of forming a French chorus line
—a little diversion while the rest of you dine.

Or ten are plenty to have a mouse band
to belt out a Sousa on a summertime strand
—such tiny musicians playing music so grand.