

Rabbit Care:

A simplified list to get you started.



1. Rabbits need Hay Everyday

Rabbit food or pellets do not offer the roughage that rabbits need. Grass hay or timothy hay (alfalfa is too rich for bunnies) is important for everyday nutrition and digestive health. Chewing is an important part of being a bunny. Give them hay and something they can chew, such as a pine cone, a clean unsprayed apple branch, cardboard, untreated and unpainted natural baskets, and wood blocks for healthy teeth.

2. Fresh Food

Rabbits love carrots, and romaine lettuce, cilantro, parsley, kale, dandelion leaves and flowers, bokchoy and more! Refer to rabbit.org or the house rabbit handbook for a complete list. They need fresh food for healthy nutrition. Just remember NOT TO FEED THEM ICEBERG LETTUCE OR CABBAGE as it can give them diarrhea.

3. Clean Water

A crock bowl is best for daily water. It's easy to clean and a crock bowl can't be easily tipped over.

4. Rabbits need Attention and Exercise

A lone bunny in a hutch is a very sad and bored. They need interaction with other living beings. They get along well with cats and well behaved dogs, and crave a caring relationship with people. Out of cage time is very important for rabbits, they need time and space to hop around explore , satisfy their curiosity and have enjoyable lives. You must supervise them in a "bunny proof" room to keep them from getting into things like house plants and electrical cords. They are fun to watch and often you'll be doubly rewarded with their very amusing antics and "happy dances". They love to chew apart a cardboard box, paper towel tube, or throw around unbreakable plastic or wooden toys. Plastic baby keys, pine cones, an old towel to push around an dig on all make good toys.

5. Litter Boxes

For easier rabbit clean up nothing beats using a litter box, and rabbits love them too! They will naturally use a litter box if you place it in the corner they usually go. You will see them hop in to use a corner of the box and munch on some hay while their at it. All you need is a regular cat litter box, put a layer or organic mulch pellets or pellet stove pellets on the bottom and top it off with a couple of handfuls of grass or timothy hay. But remember DO NOT USE KITTY LITTER it can make a rabbit sick if they happen to eat it. Top off the litter box with a handful of fresh hay every day and change the whole box as needed or every 2 or 3 days.

6. Spay and Neuter

All pets should be spayed and neutered and rabbits are no exception. Even if your bunny is never around other rabbits you will have a happier, friendlier, cleaner, healthier bunny if they are spayed and neutered. But not all veterinarians know rabbit anatomy and you'll have to seek out one that specializes in "exotics".

6. Read up

The House Rabbit Hand Book and rabbit.org are excellent sources for rabbit info if you have any questions or just want to know more, refer to these resources often.



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