

# THE ULTIMATE GUIDE FOR RABBIT CARE

SECRETS YOU SHOULD KNOW BEFORE  
ADOPTING A RABBIT



*by Anthony Carle*

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# *Chapter 1*

## Rabbit Care Basics



# INTRODUCTION

There's no greater joy than having a pet rabbit. Young and adult alike find this furry creature so adorable. When rabbits are treated as a member of the family, his intricate nature and personality will shine through. The rabbit will bring so much happiness and delight and even challenges. But first and foremost, you must know and be aware of all the rabbit care basics. In this way, you will get the utmost from your pet rabbit and they will bring you so much happiness that you'd be so grateful you decided to have them around. Imagine when they start to breed; you will soon have as much as dozen of tiny fuzzy creatures in the nest box. It will be very rewarding. Just make sure that both of the parents are in good health and free from any defects and abnormalities.

In this ebook you will gain knowledge of all the things you need to know about rabbit care basics, baby rabbit care, pet rabbit care, feeding your rabbit, pet rabbit supplies, training rabbits, breeding bunnies, wild baby rabbits and even ways and tips on having fun with your bunny. We will also discuss some health concerns about your pet rabbit. This ebook is packed with many information and pictures that would make the details more clear. Each chapter will tackle different aspects of having a pet rabbit. You will also learn the right ways and tips and even some warnings and precautions regarding your pet rabbit. You will also learn the right kind of foods and just how much you should give your bunny. You will also discover some risk when you overfeed them.

So hop in and enjoy this informative ebook and soon you'd be ready to get your own pet rabbit. You will surely find this ebook very handy and you might need it from time to time. Just open it and soon you'd be refresh from all the details you need.

Owning a pet is such a big responsibility thus very much rewarding. Giving these furry creatures extra load of love, care and attention are just some of the factors of rabbit care basics you need to consider before you adopt them. You must devote extra time too and money for their special needs. Unlike humans, they do sometimes have different needs though food and shelter and even medicines are their primary necessities. You should also make sure that they are consuming the right kind of food in the right amount. Too much food could cause obesity and other health problems. Obese doe (female rabbit) could find it very hard to conceive. But not pet rabbit have the same needs of rabbit care basics. Baby rabbits and unsprayed rabbits require extra and different attention rabbit care basics.

Opposing, to what other say about having rabbit as pets, these cuddly creatures require financial investments. You will need enough time to make your rabbit familiar with his surroundings and let it run on the house but be sure that your rabbit is safe from any danger. Rabbits are very smart and have feelings too, make sure that you consider their feelings too.

Rabbits weight depend on their sizes, some rabbits weigh 3 ½ pounds, which is the normal size, which is usually 9 to 12 pounds, and bigger rabbits could almost weight as much as 22 pounds or more and could be much bigger and heavier than cats or dogs. A smaller rabbit probably requires a smaller room compare to bigger rabbits, but just like the big bunnies, small bunnies need more patient in training them..

Rabbits must have unrestricted diet plan so as pellet consumption for this are very high in calorie content and treats of food such as fruits and veggies are far much better than any kind of human sweets. Still you need to give your rabbits small amounts of these foods because of the caloric content it has and this could make your rabbit very ill. Timothy hay and oats are very essential on your rabbit's diet. The pellets must not be filled with any grains, sunflower seeds or any kind of nuts. While

this might look yummy to them, these nutty seeds are very harmful to their digestive system and could make messy stools..

Rabbits are great munchers. They like to chew on almost everything. Some household plants and even electrical cords are rabbit's munchies. Make sure they didn't get their tiny mouths on it for it could make them very sick if swallowed or even death.

Why don't you make some rabbit toys for them instead and I'm sure they will love every part of your wonderful present. They love to chew, munch and shred everything. When rabbit gets bored, it's a disaster for their boredom could lead them to destroy your stuff instead..

Rabbits find things you don't want them to do very much appealing and entertaining, no matter how hard you teach them not to. Just like our dogs and cats, they need our love and attention too. Rabbits are usually compared to cats and they say that they have similarities.

Here are some useful rabbit care basics you need to learn before you engaged in having a pet rabbit:

Always see to it that you feed your rabbit daily and give him fresh and clean water all the time. In his diet, also include unconstrained supply of timothy hay and oats for these would help his digestion.

Make sure that his cage is four times a larger than his body so that he could have enough room to move around.

Let him do his daily exercise for 2 hours a day.

High temperature could cause health problems or even death. Do not put his cage outdoor especially in hot season.

If your pet rabbit lives outdoor, always lined his nest box with straw and hay.

Soft wood shavings are harmful to your pet instead put pines on his litter box.

Clean his cage twice a week.

If you notice some hitchhikers residing on your pet's fur, do not attempt to use any flea powder or shampoo for these are very harmful to them instead consult your vet for flea comb.

When clipping your pet rabbit's nails, make sure that you dampen his paw first and do not over trim for this may results into bleeding.

Cover your pet with towel immediately after you bath him. Do not use any kind of shampoo, only no tears shampoo is acceptable.

Though now that you have a few backgrounds of some of the most important factors of rabbit care basics, you still need to learn a lot of things about rabbits. Just remember that love and care come first in the rabbit care basics.



[latimesblogs.latimes.com](http://latimesblogs.latimes.com)

Purr-Fect Pets employee Iris Bergeron holds the two-nosed rabbit.

# GUIDELINES ON BABY RABBIT CARE

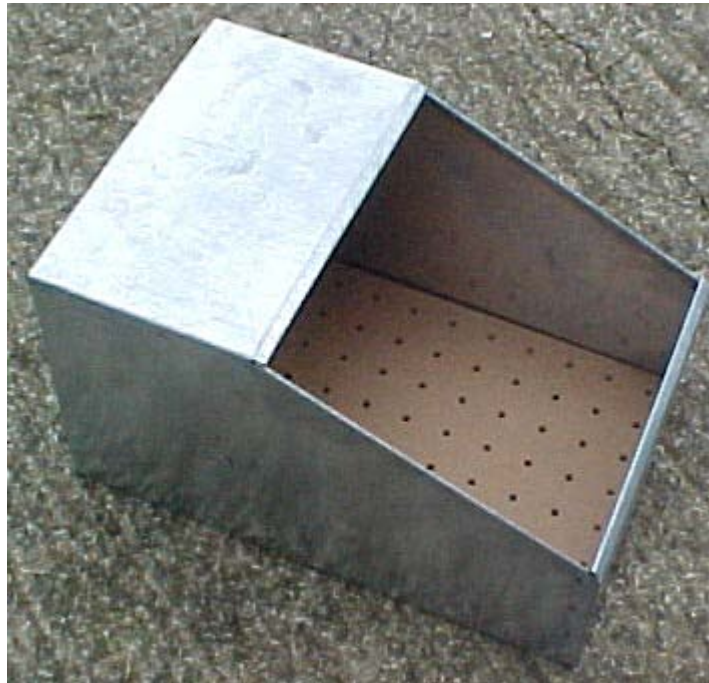
- ❖ **A nest box lined with shredded newspaper is a must.** It should be 12 x 14 inches in diameter and you can use a cardboard, wood, or metal in making a nest box. You should also punch some holes on it for drainage.



[www.martinscages.com/.../accessories/hiding.htm](http://www.martinscages.com/.../accessories/hiding.htm)

Large nesting box made of wood





[www.bunnyrabbit.com/price/nestbox.htm](http://www.bunnyrabbit.com/price/nestbox.htm)  
Metal nest box with pegboard bottom



[www.catsandrabbitsandmore.com/cottontail\\_cottages](http://www.catsandrabbitsandmore.com/cottontail_cottages)  
Card board nest box

- ❖ Extra food filled with vitamins and minerals such as spinach, broccoli and kale for the nursing mother.
- ❖ **Room temperature at 70 degrees.** Usually baby rabbits bunch together to keep themselves warm.
- ❖ Within 24 – 48 hours you will know if the mother is doing her job but if you hear sounds like meowing of kittens, then it's time for you lend a helping hand.



[jonnaakamom.blogspot.com/2009\\_02\\_01\\_archive.html](http://jonnaakamom.blogspot.com/2009_02_01_archive.html)  
Mother Rabbits' 3 bunnies with her newly adopted bunnies

- ❖ Feed the babies twice a day with a kitten feeding bottle.



[www.thevetshed.com.au/index.php/cPath/1\\_13\\_129](http://www.thevetshed.com.au/index.php/cPath/1_13_129)  
Pet nurser 2 oz. feeding bottle

- ❖ Never use eye dropper for baby rabbits might swallow a large amount of liquid that could go straight to their lungs and would cause pneumonia or respiratory attacks.
- ❖ Use canned kitten formula.

By using all these baby rabbit care guidelines, you will surely make your pet rabbit healthy and free from any danger. Like human babies, baby rabbits are very fragile. They are prone to any infections that could do them harm and even may cause death which we do not want to happen. Give your time and attention when looking after these newly born rabbits for in no time, they will surely bring you so much joy.

# MEDICAL CONCERNS

Like human new born babies, baby rabbits are very delicate and could catch any infections and sickness. There are also some medicines that should be under the supervision of health professionals before taking it. If you see or notice some of these illnesses on your pet rabbit, call your vet immediately. Medical concerns on baby rabbit care are one of the important matters you should become skilled at.

Rabbits are very sensitive and too much of everything could stress them in no time even a simple boredom. Your vet or professional health care could teach you the right way on how you should feed them with their pills, to use eye droppers, or how to feed them properly. But sometimes, rabbits have tantrums and won't cooperate especially if they sense that they are in the clinic. The pet owner should learn the right ways on how to tame them.

Most rabbits feel more comfortable when they are being treated on the floor; they feel less stressed and pressured. Though other might cooperate with you and your vet, some will still try to escape your hands. This time it is much better if they are treated on the bed or better on your lap. If you will use tables please make sure that it is clean and free from any small objects that could harm your rabbit such as pins, clips and even bits of broken glass. Some pet owner put towel on their rabbit and carries them using it. This way, you could make sure that your rabbit is secure and safe.

Oral meds are sometimes a big problem because of most it has awful aftertaste. Though rabbits would take almost anything through their mouth, they still find meds disgusting and you could see their mouths forming funny forms after taking oral meds.

Some owner don't favor with eye dropper though some did. When putting meds on your pet's eye, make sure that you pull the lower and upper eye lid and hold them to avoid squirming. make sure that the eye meds really gets into their eyes or the effect of it will not work at all. .

Rabbits do have a way of not blinking even when you put something in their eyes. Some pet rabbit owner find the floor comfortable when treating their rabbits to make sure they hold still.

If the eye meds are in cream or gel form, make sure that the meds get in their eyelids not on the eyeballs. Once the cream or gel is inside the rabbit's eye, you have to massage it so it could be absorb quickly and prevent it from coming out.

Here are some of the sickness and infection you should check about medical concerns for baby rabbit care from time to time:

1. **Red urine** is only normal for any rabbits but if this is accompanied with fever and loss of appetite better see your vet.



[www.ofnc.ca/.../rabbits/eastern-cottontail\\_e.php](http://www.ofnc.ca/.../rabbits/eastern-cottontail_e.php)

Orangey-red urine can be seen in the snow behind this rabbit

2. **Amoxicillin** is very dangerous to rabbits. It is a pink liquid with bubble gum smell. Never let your vet give your pet rabbit this kind of



medicine. There are rabbit-safe medicines available such as Chloramphenicol, Tetracycline, sulfa-drugs based like Septra or TMS, or enrofloxins such as Baytril or Cipro.

3. **Cedar and Pine Shavings** are also harmful for your pet rabbit. The aroma coming from softwood shavings could cause respiratory illnesses and could even damage the liver. Use shredded newspaper instead.



[www.arachnoboards.com/ab/showthread.php?t=113715](http://www.arachnoboards.com/ab/showthread.php?t=113715)

Pine and cedar shavings

4. **Malocclusion** is a condition in which your pet rabbit's teeth are not growing properly. One indication of malocclusion is the wet chin caused by drooling. If this happened, you should seek advice from your vet to get teeth clipping.



[www.cottontails-rescue.org.uk/rabbits.asp](http://www.cottontails-rescue.org.uk/rabbits.asp)  
Overgrown teeth

5. **Hairballs** is also harmful for your pet rabbit for unlike cats, they can not vomit or digest their loose hair. You should also brush or comb their hair regularly.



[the-feathered-nest.blogspot.com/2009/02/blog-...](http://the-feathered-nest.blogspot.com/2009/02/blog-...)  
Tuft of bunny hair

6. **Bacterial infection called the Pasteurella.** If you notice your pet rabbit experiencing high temperature, runny nose or eyes and sudden loss of appetite then you should talk to your vet to know what exactly is wrong with your pet rabbit. Though bacterial infections used to be a major health problem, there are now newer antibiotics that could cure these bacteria.
7. Even rabbits experience digestive problems such as **diarrhea**. Diarrhea could be deadly to rabbits. If the droppings are smelly and runny then your rabbit is having digestive problems. See your vet about this because your rabbit may become dehydrated.
8. If your pet rabbit is not eating or producing pellet like droppings, call your vet as soon as possible.
9. Too much food intake could lead to **obesity** and could also cause conceiving problems for doe.



[darwinstable.wordpress.com/tag/fat/](http://darwinstable.wordpress.com/tag/fat/)  
Obese rabbit

10. **Bladder stones and sludge** is also one of the medical concerns for baby rabbits. The symptoms are frequent or straining urination with traces of blood. Urinalysis and urine culture are some ways to



determine what kind of bacteria are producing this infection and what antibiotic is right to cure it.

11. **Reproductive disease such as uterine cancer** happens to female rabbit. Repeated pregnancy could trigger this cancer to occur and spread out.
12. **Ringworm or fungal disease** is very common to baby rabbits. The patches appear in the head, ears and forelimbs. If you notice this kind of infection, be extra cautious on handling affected rabbits for this disease can be easily transmitted to humans.



[www.cottontails-rescue.org.uk/rabbits.asp](http://www.cottontails-rescue.org.uk/rabbits.asp)

Damaged skin caused by fungal infections

13. Whiteness on the eye also known as **moon eye disease**.
14. Inflammation of the mammary glands caused by Pasteurella bacteria.
15. Bacterial infections of the lungs also known as **pneumonia**.
16. Inflammation or infection of intestines also called as the **Enteritis**.

17. Pet rabbit could also have brain disease and this illness is caused by a parasite called **Encephalitozoon**.
18. Rabbit could also have **Conjunctivitis**, a condition in which the tissues around the eyes became inflamed.



Gretchen Kaufman, DVM, (c) 2002  
[www.myoops.org/.../courses/5/content/215910.htm](http://www.myoops.org/.../courses/5/content/215910.htm)  
Conjunctivitis on rabbit

Always make sure that you check your rabbit's health condition to prevent any serious medical concerns of baby rabbit care.

# PROPER WAYS OF PET RABBIT CARE

Rabbits are wonderful pets. They are cuddly and warm. But it needs extra effort and a big responsibility for the owner to have a successful relationship with their pet rabbit. Owner should be knowledgeable about the proper ways on pet rabbit care.

Rabbits could live up to 5-7 years or even longer but this depends on how you take good care of them. Their precious lives depend on how you will take care of them thus understanding the proper ways on pet rabbit care is truly a must.

Rabbits have the normal body temperature of 39.5C with a whooping pulse rate of 300 per minute. They also usually like to devour their meals in the evening, night time and at the first light. It is around mid morning when they lose their droppings. Rabbits are naturally clean though they love to dig holes. One of the best tips on proper ways on pet rabbit care is that you provide them toys such as card board toilet rolls, old telephone book is also great for shredding and chewing just make sure that whatever kind of toys you give to them, these are non-toxic materials and lead free.

Just like any pets, rabbits also need extra love and care to obtain the right lifespan they have and to avoid any health problems. The responsibility of a good pet owner doesn't just end up in feeding them, playing with them, giving them vitamins supplements but also vet check ups which is very important in pet rabbit care. Even if you're feeding them the right kind of food, professional health advise is still needed to make sure they are in good shape and if sick, won't get any worse. There are now insurance company offering pet insurance too and you could get this kind of insurance for the safety of your pet. Rabbits should also have

their yearly vaccination against Viral Haemorrhagic Disease (VHD) and Myxomatosis. Frequent pregnancy to doe could end up to uterine cancer and could cause death eventually but this could be prevented if you make sure your rabbit is spayed when she reached the age of two months.

Rabbits are great pet. Another rule in pet rabbit care, rabbits should have a nice and warm hutch or cage wherein they could live and rest. Make sure their place is clean and free from any harmful chemicals.

Rabbits have individual needs just like humans and other house pets such as cats and dogs. Rabbits are warm, playful, faithful, love to chew and munch almost everything and would hop into your lap when he finds the right moment. But not all rabbits find picking them up and carrying them around very nice. Some even don't favor of hopping into your lap and be stroke. They would rather be played along on the ground like chase game for instance. Rabbits are smart so make sure the toys you give them could help them think. Keep in mind that rabbits are very fragile and sensitive thus need extra attention and security from its owner.

Rabbits love to be around with people especially with kids. Rabbits too like to be with their own kind whether these furry companions are spayed or not. Let your pet rabbit finds his own friend. What about a wedding ceremony for your buck and doe? But before you start to send in the doe into the buck's cage, make sure you consult your b=vet first to ensure that both of them are in good health. Rabbits can also be very edgy and sometimes could bite and nip you or worse his mate. try to introduce the doe to the buck in slow ways and observe for awhile before leaving them alone in the buck's cage. Rabbits are not advisable to smaller kids to be their pet. Rabbits have tendency to be panicky especially when surrounded by noise and other activities. they prefer quiet place to rest.

Money investment of adopting these creatures requires a sum total of money around \$70-\$200. Monthly maintenance for foods, toys and meds usually cost \$30. Rabbit vet visits are costly for this is around \$60 and still depends if your pet is sick. Financial requirements and budgeting depend on the age of the rabbit. Emergency such as accident could cost you a hundred dollars. On house spaying is also expensive so drive your pet on his vet's clinic for more affordable price. Spayed rabbits are much less lower to maintain and you may adopt them through any pet shelters and rescue stations.



<http://www.longbranchpettingzoo.com/images/>

Girls stroking their pet rabbit

**Here are some of the proper ways on pet rabbit care:**

1. Always give your pet rabbit fresh and clean water. Make sure that his water bottle has no leaks or such things.
2. Feed your rabbit vitamin enriched salt lick for nourishment. This would help his immune system to get strong.
3. Always provide your pet rabbit ample supply of oats and timothy hay which will truly helps his digestion.
4. Baby rabbits should also have unlimited supply of rabbit chow pellets as well as pregnant and nursing rabbits.

5. Rabbits over one year old in age should be given with 1 / 4 cups of pellets daily. Feeding pellets depend on what age and size of the rabbit. But do not overfeed them with this for pellets are very high in calorie. Too much intake of caloric food could lead to obesity.
6. Supplement their chow with 1 / 2 cups vegetable such as broccoli, carrots and watercress. Do not feed your pet rabbit with ice berg lettuce or cabbage.



[gardenplotter.com/rospo/blog/2007/07/broccoli](http://gardenplotter.com/rospo/blog/2007/07/broccoli)  
Rabbits eating broccoli for lunch

7. A rabbit's cage must be twice or four times larger than his body so that he could move around freely.
8. Allow your rabbit to do some moving like exercise for at least 2 hours daily. Let him play with his toys.
9. Protect your rabbit from hot temperature as well as cold one because too high and too cold surroundings could make them very sick and on worst situation, even death could take place.
10. If your rabbit lives outdoor, then a cozy nest box is a must. Make sure you lined it with straw or hay.

11. Do not ever use softwood shavings such as pine and cedar shavings because these give out aromatic smell that is very harmful to rabbit's health.
12. Clean their cages at least twice daily.
13. Do not use any flea soap or powder if you suspects that your pet rabbit has fleas. Consult your vet about the flea comb.
14. When trimming their nails, make sure that you dampen their paws first and do not over trim their nails or it will bleed and I mean, a lot!



[www.ehow.com/how\\_2283545\\_trim-dogs-toenails.html](http://www.ehow.com/how_2283545_trim-dogs-toenails.html)

Trimming the rabbit's nails

Rabbits also need to eat veggies and fruits to avoid any vitamin deficiency. This is another important factor of proper ways on pet rabbit care. But not all fruits and veggies are allowed for them to chow down. Some could give them respiratory health problems and even kidney failure that may lead to death. Here are the list of vegetables and fruits that you should give and avoid in feeding to your pet rabbit.

VEGETABLES	FRUITS	TO BE AVOIDED
Alfalfa Sprouts	Papaya	Ice Berg Lettuce
Basil	Strawberries	Cabbage
Bok Choy	Raspberries	Grains
Broccoli	Blueberries	Legumes
Cilantro	Apple	Nuts
Clover	Grapes	Potato
Endive	Peach	Rhubarb
Kale	Plum	Beans
Mint	Melon	Cauliflower
Parsley	Pineapple	
Spinach	Bananas	
Romaine		
Mustard Greens		
Watercress		
Wheat Grass		
Radish Greens		
Green Bell Peppers		
Celery		
Collard Greens		

Now all you have to do is make a list out of this table I illustrated. Make sure that whatever you give to your pet rabbit should always be in moderation.



# PRECAUTIONS ABOUT PET RABBIT CARE

There are some precautions about pet rabbit care we must understand regarding pet rabbit care because your pet rabbit's health condition will depend on it.

- ❖ Do not use cedar or pine shavings for pet bedding, litter box or nest box materials. These softwood shavings can cause respiratory blockage and liver damage when eaten.
- ❖ Give your pet rabbit ample supply of fresh water especially during hot seasons. In this way dehydration will be avoided.
- ❖ During extreme coldness of the season, make sure that you keep them safe and warm by using a lamp light on their cages or nest box. Soft, thick blanket would also help. You may also use heating pads but be careful on using it because baby rabbits tend to get easily burn when their sensitive skin has contact with it.



[www.harvestmoonangoras.com/shearing\\_tutorial%...](http://www.harvestmoonangoras.com/shearing_tutorial%...)  
Rabbits under the heating lamp.

- ❖ Check your pet rabbit for those unwanted hitchhikers (fleas) especially during the warm season. Never use flea soap.



[www.lecoeurrabbitrescue.co.uk/from\\_top\\_to\\_tail](http://www.lecoeurrabbitrescue.co.uk/from_top_to_tail)  
Sign of flea infestation: Flea dirt



[www.lecoeurrabbitrescue.co.uk/from\\_top\\_to\\_tail](http://www.lecoeurrabbitrescue.co.uk/from_top_to_tail)  
The tick had wedged near the rabbit's eye

- ❖ Keep your rabbit on leash or do not leave your attention out from your pet during your activities outdoor. Predators are everywhere.
- ❖ Make sure that they get their shots more than ever especially if your rabbit lives outdoor. Yearly vaccines is a must.

## *Chapter 2*

# Feeding Your Rabbit



Ready kitten formula is best for baby rabbits especially when you don't know what the right food to feed them. Powder formula doesn't spoil quickly when mixed with water. Try not to feed them through eye dropper for they might swallow big amounts of milk that could get in their lungs that may cause respiratory blockage. Syringe feeding is another alternative way on how you should feed baby rabbits. Give them warm milk for this is much preferred by baby rabbits. Just like us, humans, there is nothing compared to our own mother's milk, so let the mother doe take care of her kits for even a short period of time.

Here in this next chapter, you will learn all the things concerning feeding your rabbit from what kind of foods you should give and how much you should give them. We will also discuss some precautions about feeding your rabbit. This section is very important in feeding your rabbits so make sure you make a list of it when you are done reading it so you could bring this list every time you go to the pet shop to buy their needs.

What you feed to them is the only basis of their lifespan. A healthy diet which consists of veggies, fruits and pellets will make them strong enough to fight against any disease and infections. These will also strengthen their immune system. A pregnant rabbit should be feed with extra nourishment and vitamins. As well as baby rabbits to build strong defense system.

Study well your food list and give them what appropriate for their age and conditions.

# KINDS OF FOOD YOUR RABBIT NEEDS

1. Clean fresh water. Replace water daily on his water bottles.
2. Timothy hay and oats helps rabbit's digestion.
3. Pellets  $\frac{1}{4}$ -  $\frac{1}{2}$  cups daily, depending on their size and age.
4. Give your pet rabbit some veggies like carrots, celery, broccoli and kale. Avoid cabbage and ice berg lettuce.
5. As a treat, you can give your pet rabbit some fruits like apple, pineapple and other fruits without seeds. But do not overfeed them with these for it could lead to obesity.
6. Chocolate and other human sweets are a big no-no. These kind of food are poisonous and could kill your pet in no time.
7. Legumes, nuts and grains are also the kind of foods that you should not give to them. These could cause respiratory blockage and even liver damage.

Rabbits often act famish even they are not so do not be fooled with this thing because too much food intake could lead to obesity. Also give them food rich in fiber such as turnips, mustard green, dandelion greens and parsley. High fiber foods would help their digestion. Now that you have the list of all the right kinds of food your rabbit needs, go and buy some on the grocery and make sure these are free from any harsh chemicals.

# HEALTHY SUPPLEMENTS AND TREATS

Healthy supplements and treats are also included when feeding your rabbit. But should be given in moderate amount to avoid any health problems. Treats should be introduced slowly in very small amounts only.

Rabbits are smart and they know when you are about to feed them with sweets. But never assume that pet shops sell all the right food for your pet rabbit. Most pet owner assure that giving your pet rabbit sweets are like letting them digest rubbish that could harm their system. Do not be tempted to buy these kinds of treats no matter how convincing or wonderful their so called nutritional contents. These are usually their market strategies to gain consumers' attention to buy their products.

There is nothing more safer and nutritious than high quality pellets, oats, timothy hays, veggies like carrots, broccoli, kale, raddish, romaine cabbage and fruits such as apple, banana, papaya and pineapples than any human treats.

These killing sugar components are also can be found in any yogurt drops. The high sugar is the criminal here. Though rabbits love sweets, make sure you feed them in very small amounts. Too much sugar can cause obesity and thus resulting to health problems and if not treated or prevented, it could lead to death. The same can happen after feeding too much fruit. There are many alternative treats you could feed them such as fruits (apple twigs, berries, melons and orange without the skin, of course).

Vitamins are not that necessary on your pet rabbit's diet. If you want them to give them this, see your vet first for their opinion whether if your pet rabbit still needs vitamins. Veggies and fruits are already packed with these nutrients, if you are feeding them with all the right kind of veggies and fruits then you don't have to give them any vitamins.

It you still want to feed your rabbit with sweets, then study the nutritional value well and know the sugar and fat contents thoroughly. My best advice is do not give your pet rabbit sweets, there are many free things you can still give to them such as handmade toys and of course your attention.

**Here are some of the healthy supplements and treats your pet rabbit needs:**

1. Alfalfa hay
2. Mountain ash berries
3. Dried herbs
4. Apple twigs
5. Banana chips
6. Porridge oats
7. Dried rose hips
8. Natural liquorice roots



# ESSENTIAL PET RABBIT SUPPLIES

Different kinds of essential pet rabbit supplies are now available both in online store and pet shops. They offer a wide variety with very competitive price. These also come in different shades and sizes.

Like humans, rabbits need these essential pet rabbit supplies for them to able to survive. Choosing the right one for them takes a lot of searching because of the wide selection you choose from. First time owners always find this situation a bit overwhelming.

Essential pet rabbit supplies include different kinds and sizes of cages, toys, pellets, leash, water bottles, trays and even brands of vitamins and minerals.



*[www.rabbitmart.com/](http://www.rabbitmart.com/)  
Essential pet rabbit supplies*



# KINDS OF SUPPLIES YOUR RABBIT NEEDS

- ❖ **Rabbit bedding and nesting.** This is the main supply your rabbit needs. Make sure you use non-toxic materials on it to avoid any health problems in the future.



[www.rabbitmart.com/](http://www.rabbitmart.com/)  
Rabbit bedding

- ❖ **Rabbit's Chew Blocks.** This could also add up your pet's toy collection.



[www.rabbitmart.com/](http://www.rabbitmart.com/)  
Waffle block house

- ❖ **Rabbit beds and cages.** Pet rabbits must be kept in their own cages to protect them from any danger from the other housepets such as cats and dogs. Rabbits could learn fast when you teach them about litter training so letting them run freely around the house is okay. Rabbit cage still their first choice of place wherein they can retire or relax. As typical, the cage should be 4 times larger than the rabbit itself. Make sure that your rabbit's cage has enough room so he could move around especially when you decided not to let him go out the cage. There are different kinds of cages available now and it differs from sizes and shapes. There are cages with wire pull out pans for litters. Flat floor are advisable to make cleaning the litters more easily. Wire floors do sometimes can hurt the rabbit's foot even if it is tapered. It is advisable not to buy wired cages thus preventing the rabbit to get hocks which is really painful for them.
- ❖ Also make sure that the cage door is wide as the cage itself to get the litter pan out easily. A side door is also great so rabbits could get in and out on their own and won't need any kind of budging just to get them out of their cages.
- ❖ A good kind of cage will make any rabbits contented and will not have any problems when it is time for them to rest or relax.



[www.freewebs.com/.../rabbitbasics.htm](http://www.freewebs.com/.../rabbitbasics.htm)

Rabbit cage

- ❖ **Rabbit carriers.** Make sure that the rabbit carrier is sturdy and have enough space. This is very ideal if you want to take your rabbit out in a travel.



[www.bunnybunchboutique.com/necessities.html](http://www.bunnybunchboutique.com/necessities.html)  
Rabbit carriers

- ❖ **Rabbit feeders**



[www.rabbitmart.com/](http://www.rabbitmart.com/)  
Rabbit feeder with sifter

- ❖ **Rabbit food and treats.** Any kind of foods should be rabbit safe and free from any harsh chemicals or substances that could harm your rabbit. You can bake some rabbit cookies just make sure you didn't use any sugar on it. You can put up fruits or veggies as its main ingredient. It is healthy for them as well as safer and free from any chemicals.

To add up fun to your cookies, you may use your fancy cookie cutters when preparing the dough of your rabbit's cookies. Be sure that you will use only organic and fresh ingredients when making these treats. Do not use any eggs on it. You can also put crushed pellets as base. You may use flour. Butter should be in moderation because this too is high in calorie.

Though it is fun to watch your pet rabbit munch on those criminal sweets, it is very unsafe and harmful to their health. Obesity is the main cause of too much sweets intake. Obesity is the number one health problems that could affect your rabbit. Owners should watch what they feed to their pets to avoid serious problems and could prevent them too in spending a lot of money.



[www.freewebs.com/.../dietnutrution.htm](http://www.freewebs.com/.../dietnutrution.htm)

Dark colored pellets

### ❖ **Nail Clippers**



[www.exclusivelyhedgehogs.com](http://www.exclusivelyhedgehogs.com)  
Rabbit's nail clipper

- ❖ **Rabbit hutches.** Hutches are rabbit's house wherein he foot is elevated to protect them from any housepets such as dogs and cats. This is also a must if ou are keeping your pet rabbit outdoors.



[www.animalinstinct.co.uk/.../small-animals.html](http://www.animalinstinct.co.uk/.../small-animals.html)  
Rabbit hutch

### ❖ Rabbit litter box and scoop



[www.feedem.co.uk/small-animals-40/animal-hygi...](http://www.feedem.co.uk/small-animals-40/animal-hygi...)  
Rabbit litter box and scoop

### ❖ Rabbit stain and odor control



[www.rabbitmart.com/shop/rabbitodor.php](http://www.rabbitmart.com/shop/rabbitodor.php)  
Stain and odor control

## ❖ Rabbit leash



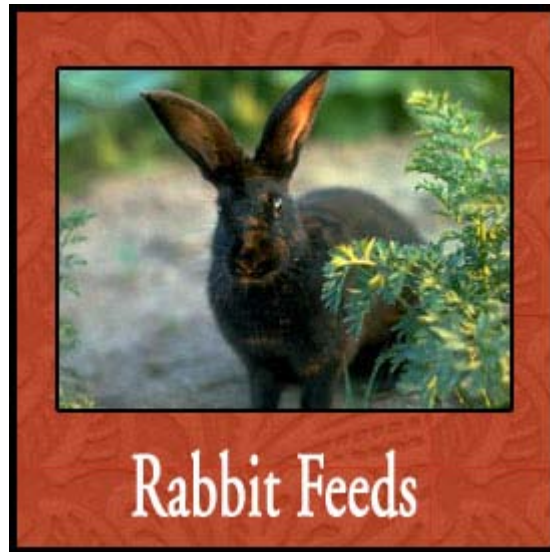
[www.rabbitmart.com/](http://www.rabbitmart.com/)  
Retractable rabbit leash

## ❖ Rabbit toys



[www.pet-rabbit-care-information.com/rabbit-to...](http://www.pet-rabbit-care-information.com/rabbit-to...)  
Super pet knot nibbler

### ❖ Rabbit vitamins and minerals



[www.fulopep.com/livestock.html](http://www.fulopep.com/livestock.html)

Line of rabbit feeds that offers vitamins and minerals

Invest a good quality of these kinds of supplies your rabbit needs. Good quality means less replacement and safety of your pet rabbit from any harsh chemicals from other cheap brands or kinds.



## *Chapter 3*

# Training Your Rabbit



Isn't it great to see your cuddly pet rabbit knows how to use his litter box the right way? Training rabbits takes a lot of time and patience. Rabbits don't do the things you want him to do in just one trial. You have to teach him every day and give him some small treats afterwards.

Training rabbits need not to be forceful. Be as gentle as possible or else your pet rabbit will become more rebellious and withdrawn. Like small children, training rabbits must come from your heart. Do not grab the rabbit but instead pick him up slowly through this way he will also feel that you cares for him. Do not pressure them to do things.

Here in Chapter 3, you will gain knowledge of training rabbits the right way. You will also know some basic needs and precautions about training rabbits.



[www.qrabbit.com/litter.html](http://www.qrabbit.com/litter.html)

Rabbit using his litter box

# LITTER TRAINING

Litter training your pet rabbit isn't that difficult. You'll probably notice that your pet rabbit may leave his droppings on one corner and some piling on the other corner of the cage. This is natural for them especially if they haven't yet introduced to litter training.

Once your pet is familiarized with the smell of his urine and droppings on the tray of his litter box, then you won't have any problems with his litters. It means that your pet rabbit has finally learned his litter training program.

Litter training is introduced at the early age of the rabbit. Rabbits usually eat their food in night time and early morning thus losing his droppings around 9 am. The litter tray should be clean regularly but not that thoroughly that will remove the smell of urine and droppings.

Bunny could be litter train when he reaches 4 months. Spayed rabbits are easier to litter train than to any ordinary rabbits without treatments. Your bunny needs a certain area wherein he or she can deposit his urine and droppings. Once your pet has chosen a specific place, that's the time you decide where to put down his litter box. Place hay on his litter box or any safe litter beddings on it, never use pine or cedar. Place the litter box with extra hay on the side so the rabbit could chew while he does his waste business. Once your rabbit learns his litter training program, you may now let him get out his cage and do some adventures in the house. Observe your rabbit closely when doing his litter training. If your rabbit spray his urine on the floor, firmly say no and let him smell his own urine on the litter box. Clean the litter box with warm soapy water or vinegar. Regularly clean the litter box, after they're done with it and soon you will have a healthy and contented bunny.



[www.qrabbit.com/litter.html](http://www.qrabbit.com/litter.html)  
Rabbit on his litter pan

Here are also some of warnings you should always remember in training rabbits: Cat litter is a big no-no. Clay-based cat litter can harm your rabbit. Never hurt your rabbit for this will only scare them. Pine and cedar chips are also dangerous to rabbits or any softwood shavings. Corn cobb litter can block your rabbit's digestive track which is a serious emergency that could end up to your rabbit's death.

# MATERIALS USED IN TRAINING RABBITS

1. **Paper pulp or recycled newspaper litters.** These are both safe when indigested and absorbent and can control odor well.
2. **Compressed sawdust pellets.** Most brands are safe but some contains fluids, so make sure that you ask first. This also can control odor.
3. **Pelleted plant fiber litter.** This looks like pine and cedar beddings but very safe. Can also control odor.
4. **Food pellets.** Some use food pellets as litter but make sure that you check it regularly because wet pellets would produce molds and molds are toxic to rabbits.
5. **Newspaper or shredded paper.** The most economical alternative to purchase litter.
6. Avoid using clumping litters, pine and cedar shavings, catworks litter, corn cob litter and clay litters because these can cause respiratory blockage and liver failure.



[www.longislandrabbitrescue.org/litter\\_trainin...](http://www.longislandrabbitrescue.org/litter_trainin...)  
Long rabbit rescue using his litter box



## *Chapter 4*

# Breeding Bunnies



# BREEDING BUNNIES

Starting a breeding bunnies business requires a lot of time and yes, financial investment. The happiness of living with these cuddly creatures is very much rewarding when they start to reproduce their kits. Some will say that they want exactly the way your rabbit like. But there's no assurance that your rabbit will look exactly the way her kits will be. Making sure that your rabbit is in good health helps a lot before you start breeding bunnies. These will avoid any abnormalities to her litters as well as safety to the mother bunny.

Breeding bunnies is not as ordinary as letting your buck and doe multiply. Lots of attention, care and financial investment. Breeding bunnies is rewarding. But you must have the knowledge about it.

Most of the pet rabbit owners find breeding bunnies amusing thus making them purchase for another bunny for mating.

Breeding bunnies, though wonderful as it looks like, there is no money in this kind of business. Owners should know and understand that breeding bunnies is just for leisure and fun and could do sometimes used up for meat production.

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A mother doe could also get health problems from repeatedly pregnancy. This illness is called uterine cancer and if not treated, could lead to death. It is very important to also think about their health. Though it is amazing to see dozens of soft creatures in the nest box, it could cause harm to their mother. Breeding bunnies should be done not so frequent to avoid this kind of problem in the future.



Make sure that the buck and doe are also free from any abnormalities or else these may be inherited by their litters and could affect the breeding process. rabbits in great shape and health are the best choice for breeding, so see your vet first before initiating ant breeding process. Perfect litters come from perfect doe and buck.

It is important to make sure that there are no defects from both rabbits parents to avoid inheritance of it of their litters. Tooth defect is the usual abnormality of rabbit parents that their litters could inherit. When this happens, the breeding bunnies program is not successful. Abnormalities and defects are the main problems you can face when starting the breeding business.

Consequently, for this cause, it is advisable to breed rabbits from high quality bucks and does. A thorough check up will do well before you start to let them mate. Bunnies bought from knowledgeable breeders will assure you that you got the best kind of rabbits for mating thus also sure that they are free from any disease, abnormalities and defects.

Rabbit bought from pet shop is also advisable so as to be sure that they know the rabbit's background and habitats. These factors would help you know if your rabbit is healthy and safe for mating. These would also inform the owner whether these rabbits are high quality or not

# LEGAL REQUIREMENTS BEFORE STARTING BREEDING BUNNIES

- ❖ You must obtain a license before start to breeding bunnies whether if you are only going to keep it as your own pets or if you are going to sell it.
- ❖ If the baby bunnies are to be sold then this is consider as business.
- ❖ Proper insurance and public liability are also needed.
- ❖ You also need to comply with the fire regulation and any local bylaws.



[ayla.gaia.com/blog/2008/4/tulip\\_eating\\_bunny](http://ayla.gaia.com/blog/2008/4/tulip_eating_bunny)  
Breeding bunnies

# DEFINITION OF DOMESTIC RABBIT

Rabbit is one of a type of animals that loves to dig holes and belongs to the kin of Leporidae which have the description of lengthy ears and dumpy tails; a number of domesticated rabbits raised for pets or meat production.

Domestic rabbit is more than a few kinds of European rabbit raised for household pets. They are the tamed types and could be litter train as well.

Male rabbits are bucks while females are called doe and coney is what you called a mature rabbit. A young hare or rabbit is often called the leveret. Domestic rabbits are usually tamed and playful but like other animals; they too can nip or bite you if aggravated.

There are numerous kinds of breeds of domestic rabbit, such as the English Angora, Lionhead, Dwarf Hotot, Chinchilla, Dutch, Elfin, Flemish Giant, Himalayan, Netherland Dwarf, Holland Lop, Silver, Silver fox, English spot, Havana, Florida White, New Zealand, Rex, Polish, Jersey Wooly, Satin, and Mini Lop. As with breeds of dogs, rabbit breeds were usually done by the hands of humans under the breeding programs which has been tested and proven effective to give successful results. There are more than 47 rabbit breeds known by the American Rabbit Breeders Association in the United States. There are lots of more breeds in the world that are not yet discovered..

Domestic rabbits differ from their traits and colors. They comprise eyes on either side of its head and its ears are more often than not large. Their whiskers are their distinctive feature and they have tiny tails and strong hind legs. With eyes on either side of its head, the rabbit has a good eye

sight vision. Monocular vision allows the rabbit to see a wider part, but have some problems seeing in near sight. Rabbits use their smart and alert instincts to spot predators in no time. When troubled, rabbits thump their feet. Rabbits have 2 pairs of incisors and these are located at the back and are not that sharp. These have no roots and could grow slowly.

The domestic rabbit, or the ordinary household pet, is also related to wild rabbit's family. But not like its family, the domestic rabbit can survive in any wooden or metal cages unlike wild rabbits that could only live in the forests. It could eat veggies like carrots, broccoli, and store-bought rabbit pellets. Animals that prey upon the domestic rabbit are humans, alligators, snakes, foxes, bobcats, wolves, dogs, bears, hawks, eagles and lions and tigers. The paws are the most sensitive part of the rabbit's body. If the rabbit's paw is broken, then the rabbit will die eventually. Also, if it didn't get any sufficient water, it could also die. If a rabbit is in danger or attacked by predators, the rabbit makes a screeching sound like from the cat to know any near humans that he is in great danger.

The domestic rabbit provides as the main food source for predators. If we will not make rabbits as one of our food source, they will eventually die and rot. The rabbit's habitats are near the grassland or any place near the water for domestic rabbits would no survive without any water intake. The rabbit can also live in the forest for some reason. This is the place wherein they could search for their food and hide from any predators. This is also where it can reproduce and take care of her litters.



[www.dkimages.com/discover/DKIMAGES/Discover/H...](http://www.dkimages.com/discover/DKIMAGES/Discover/H...)

Domestic rabbits

# DIFFERENT KINDS OF DOMESTIC RABBITS

**Angora rabbits.** They are famous for their soft and fuzzy fur that looks like stuffed toys. Some of the Angora rabbits are so fuzzy that people have hard times believing they are real rabbits. Their wool is very famous in the fur making industry.



[rabbitbreeding.info/category/rabbit-breeds/](http://rabbitbreeding.info/category/rabbit-breeds/)  
Angora rabbit

**Lionhead rabbits.** These tiny rabbits have a hair of wool around their head much similar to a male African Lion. Both the doe and the buck have manes. Unlike the Angora rabbits, Lionhead rabbits have ordinary wool in their bodies. They are great housepet for they love to play with people and very warm too. Unlike any other breeds, Lionhead rabbits need not to be regularly groom when they reached their maturing age.

The description of a Lionhead Rabbit has erect ears and mature Lionhead rabbits usually stay under 3 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> pounds for them to be able to put up on a show.



[www.pricerscope.com/.../view.asp?topicID=106333](http://www.pricerscope.com/.../view.asp?topicID=106333)

Lionhead rabbit

**Dwarf Hotot rabbit.** With a maximum weight of 3 pounds, this very small rabbit is ideal as housepet. The head is round with a broad skull, and the neck is usually unnoticeable. The eyes are round, dark brown, and outlined with a thin band of black fur, resulting from a fake impression as if they are wearing mascara. Their heads are rounded with short, upright ears that may or may not touch, and their bodies are of a normal sized with rounded hindquarters. They often stretch their necks.

They have a shiny, small and white coat and that only makes their black eyes to stand out. Several specimens as well include a black spot on the ears or blue spots in the eye band. These rabbits make great pets, but only few have the knowledge about this rabbit. The normal natural life of a Dwarf Hotot is 7 to 10 years, and usually gives birth to 3-4 litters only.

Dwarf Hotot is pronounced “Oh-Toe” or sometimes “Hoe-Toe”. This small rabbit is also called the “fancy of the eye”. These small rabbits are very much pleasing not just to their owners’ eyes but also could capture their hearts. Despite the fact that they are white furred, the black line under

their eyes make them unique from other rabbits. Their small size also adds up to their charming features. They don't need big cage and doesn't require any special grooming.

Their cleverness and friendliness also adds up to their wonderful description as house pet .These adorable little creatures are best for children to be there pet. Like any other rabbits, Dwarf Hotot rabbit loves to be cuddled and pet. They also love to hop around the house and even into your waiting lap. They like to play around with their toys and chew on almost anything.



[thenatureofthings.com/photo\\_gallery\\_1.htm](http://thenatureofthings.com/photo_gallery_1.htm)  
Dwarf Hotot rabbit

**Chinchilla.** It was after the World War II when this rabbit was first established. The coat color is very distinctive: the undercolour of the fur be supposed to be slate blue at the base, the middle portion pearl grey, amalgamation into white and tipped with black—much like the chinchilla, the fur-producing rodent in which this rodent is named after.

Chinchillas are rodents, with the body of a rabbit and a tail of a squirrel. The color ranges amid white and black. They differ in traits though both male and female can be wonderful pets. These little creatures arrived in the US from Chile, Peru and Argentina. It was 1923 when some of them



were brought there, and all Chinchillas living in the USA now are actually offsprings of those few.



[gotpetsonline.com/.../chinchilla-0015](http://gotpetsonline.com/.../chinchilla-0015)

Chinchilla rabbit

**Dutch rabbit.** Dutch rabbit can live up to 5 years or more depending on how you take care of them. The Dutch rabbit can give birth to litters, 3-5 young, or more. The Dutch rabbit is a small rabbit. They are with ears that stand erect. The potent back legs are longer than the front legs. The Dutch rabbit is white with another color. They are one of the most admired rabbits kept as pets in the present day. These rabbits are most vigorous in the morning and at night; they normally snooze throughout the day.



[flickr mammals.googlepages.com/pets](http://flickr mammals.googlepages.com/pets)

Timmy the Dutch Rabbit munches on a tomatoe! Photo from: Bunnyhop

**Flemish Giant rabbit.** If you want something huge but friendly then get yourself this kind of rabbit. They might be that huge and their looks could be threatening, these giants are very charming and playful. They are wonderful housepet. They are more like a dog breeds because of their calm traits. Flemish Giants can get along easily with other housepets too such as cats and dogs. The Flemish Giant is biggest rabbit breed to survive. These warm giants are very calm and playful that you could leave the kids with them without worrying but still not ideal for small children. Small children could get hurt or the rabbit itself when they try to hold them up. But it is great for older kids because they know how to pick the rabbit in the right way. Flemish Giant adults weigh over 13 pounds, and occasionally as much as 22 pounds. They have long, well built bodies and rounded rumps. Their ears are long and erect, and their heads broad. Flemish Giant Rabbits come in different colors such as black, blue, fawn, light gray, sandy, steel gray, and white. Some have patchy colors but these are not very much pleasing.



[scienceblogs.com/.../2008/03/rabbitzilla.php](http://scienceblogs.com/.../2008/03/rabbitzilla.php)

Flemish Giant rabbit

**Himalayan rabbit.** These rabbits are classified as one of the finest rabbit breed at all times. They are very calmed, friendly. Need not special grooming aids. Himalayans are not hard to take care of thus making them as wonderful pets. Their coats are simple to care for thus their cage is the only thing you should look and clean more often. The Himalayan Rabbit is one of the best domestic rabbit ever. Its unique features and pink eyes make them as the top favorite of rabbit breeders, and its timid and friendly traits make them adorable pets. It is one of the rabbit great for children because of its body structured like a cat that makes holding them up is such an easy task. They are also friendly with other rabbits.

Himalayans can be easily known because of their pink eyes and unique fur colors. Their bodies are white, with darker markings on the nose, ears, tail, and feet. They are small breeds, weighing 2 ½ to 4 ½ pounds. Cylindrical is how they are classified at any rabbit show. They are judged in a stretched-out position. The black color kind is not produced by mating. Other distinctive colors are blue, chocolate, and lilac. They are usually born insolid white, but its colored markings develop with age.



[www.animalpicturesarchive.com/view.php?tid=2...](http://www.animalpicturesarchive.com/view.php?tid=2...)  
Himalayan rabbit

**New Zealand rabbits.** These rabbits are adorable and they are perfect for first time owner. They are very friendly and love to be cuddled and pet. They just like any ordinary domestic rabbits but they don't nip or bite at all. One of their best traits is that they very fond of handling them by their owner. They love to play around so you need to give this rabbit a bigger cage so he could move around. They also need to work out every day because they are prone to become obese. A normal sized rabbit, the New Zealand mature will get up to 11 pounds. The New Zealand rabbit is born purely white but could also be brick red with pinkish eyes and ears.



[www.cavescreekfarm.com/fa/farmanimals.html](http://www.cavescreekfarm.com/fa/farmanimals.html)  
New Zealand rabbits

**Polish rabbits.** There are two different types of Polish Rabbits: The Britannia Petite (British Polish), and the American Polish. These rabbits are both tiny rabbits. The British Petite is the tinier with weighing only about 2 1/2 pounds, while the American Polish is a little bigger weighing closer to 3 1/2 pounds. Polish Rabbit are friendly and warm rabbits. They can follow orders just by their hearing their owner's voice. The Polish Rabbit, next to with the Netherland Dwarf Rabbit, is the rabbit magician used for their magic shows. Magicians use them because they can be taught and could learn easily and they also have good appearance. They are also not afraid of kids and love to be handled by them. Polish Rabbits friendly and smart. they are best suited for younger kids and even for people with some abnormalities. Their miniature size makes them easy to feed and groom. British Polish rabbits are very petite, and light, with a weight of 2.5 pounds. American Polish rabbits, larger than their British counterparts, have an upper weight closer to 3.5 pounds, and have longer ears than the Netherlands dwarf rabbits. The British Polish rabbit: In the USA, the only color accepted for any rabbit show is albino (white with red eyes), but in Britain, many more colors are accepted and acknowledged. The American Polish rabbit: Their colors consist of black, blue, and chocolate with in general same color eyes, and white with ruby or blue eyes.





[www.angora-rabbits.com/.../polish-rabbits.html](http://www.angora-rabbits.com/.../polish-rabbits.html)  
Polish rabbits



<https://.../Indiana/360/Documents/news003.htm>  
Petey, a 15-month-old American Polish rabbit  
from Briar patch Bunnies in Mishawaka

**American Fuzzy Lop rabbit.** The American Fuzzy Lop rabbits are friendly and have a charming way of making its owner happy. They have great characteristics and behavior that make them perfect in any rabbit show. They are fuzzy and adorable and could be very sweet and playful. This bunny is ideal for first time owners for they don't need any special grooming. Males and females can be great pet for they are both have the friendly traits but female lops are more shy and edgy than male lops. Females can get easily irritated with any noise or activities around her. The American Fuzzy Lop Rabbit is a tiny, round, wooly rabbit weighing up to about three and a half to four pounds. They have short wide faces, short lopped ears, and long fur. The American Fuzzy Lop Rabbits come in different colors and patterns. Most of the lops color consist of: agouti, broken, pointed white, self, shaded and solid. There are 19 documented show colors.



[www.sutherabbitlady.com/](http://www.sutherabbitlady.com/)  
American Fuzzy Lop

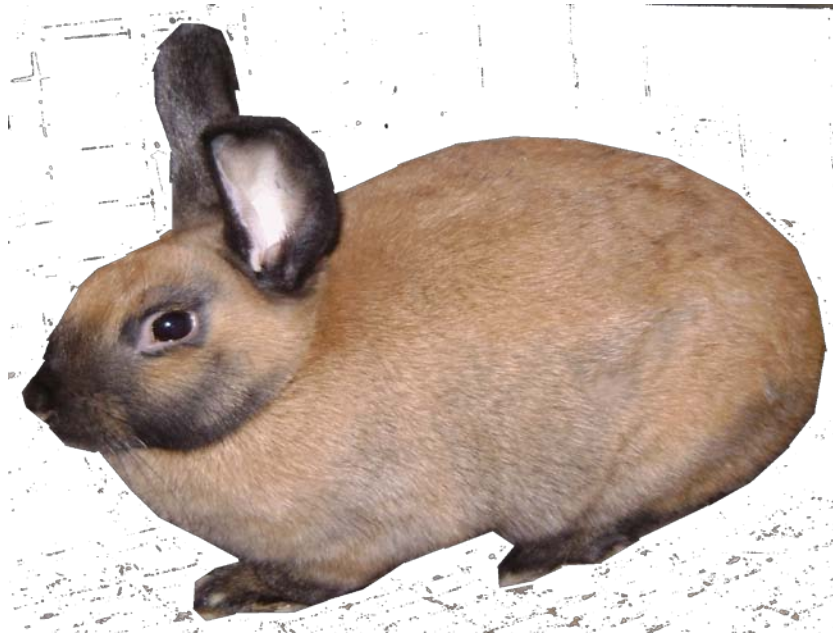


**Cinnamon rabbits.** The Cinnamon Rabbit is a gorgeous breed because of its combination colors on the body. These rabbit are for shows and meat production but can be also great as pet. Like any other domestic rabbit, this rabbit is friendly and loves to be handled.

Cinnamons are born curious and love to discover new things around him. They have a certain trait of being calm that make them perfect for children. But their body size is not advisable for smaller kids to handle for kids might hurt them when they try to pick him up.

The Cinnamon rabbit is a robust breed that requires special diet plan. You should regularly brush their hair. Groom their fur every month especially on the time wherein they will shed new hairs. It will help them to stay healthy if the owner will play with them, feed them right and will allow them to exercise for 2 hours every day. Cinnamon rabbits do need indoor cage too to protect themselves from harm.

The Cinnamon under the American Livestock Breeds Conservancy's list of rare rabbit breeds. Cinnamon breed are starting to become extinct. The main feature of the Cinnamon Rabbit is its luscious coat with color being the most important trait. The outer coat consists of a rust or cinnamon colored base with gray ticking on the tips. Grayer than rust color is on the extremities, especially on the face, ears, and tail, which is a darker shade of gray than the rest of the body? In some rabbits, this shade may be closer to black. The undercoat is orange. The coat is of normal length, 1-1 ½ inches long. This breed has a thick, normal length body with round hips. The head is set directly to the body. The ears are in normal length, and they stand upright. They are average in size, with the males weighing 8 ½ to 10 ½ pounds and the females weighing 9 to 11 pounds. The Cinnamon Rabbit's natural life is like to the normal rabbit, which is 7 to 12 years.



[www.crbaonline.com/links.html](http://www.crbaonline.com/links.html)  
Cinnamon rabbit

**Crème D' Argent rabbits.** This rabbit is known for being friendly and warm which makes them perfect for any rabbit shows. The Creme D'Argent Rabbit is one of the classic types of rabbit from France, the Champagne D'Argent.

Both the Crème D' Argent and the Champagne D' Argent has the same color traits and these change as they aged. The Creme D'Argent is natural orange and the Champagne D' Argent are thrice lighter than the Crème D' Argent.

Creme D'Argent rabbits are tamed rabbit thus still wants their owner's attention. Both of these breeds are rare. These orange rabbits are measured to be a large breed rabbit, and between 8 to 11 lbs. when mature. Crème D' Argent have a well-built well developed round body of average length with upright ears, and are just smaller than the ordinary Champagne D'Argent.

Though they have short fur, their hair still need to be comb by slicker comb to prevent it from dryness. Their shade is creamy-white with a bright orange on it.



<http://glimmercroft.com/Rabbits.html>  
Creme d'Argent bunnies two weeks old.

**Havana rabbits.** This bunny is a true beauty for its exceptional features in the midst of its shiny and rich colored fur coat. The Havana Rabbit is perfect for rabbit show, even though Havana rabbits are better to be housepets alone. They are very cuddly, warm and charming thus an ideal pet for kids. Havana Rabbits have tendency to be shy and they rather want to be alone. Their sweet tempered traits will surely make their owner love them more. They want their owner to be as demonstrative as possible. This rabbit doesn't need any big cages or hutches because of their small size. Havana rabbits are measured to be an intermediate breed rabbit and will weigh between 4.5 to 6.5 lbs. when full developed. They have a small, rounded body, quite short upright ears and short soft light fur that is simple to maintain.

The Havana rabbits color is usually dark and deep as compared to other breeds. The colors are Chocolate, Black, and Blue.



[www.thebunnehblog.blogspot.com/2008\\_01\\_01\\_archive](http://www.thebunnehblog.blogspot.com/2008_01_01_archive).

Havana rabbit

**Jersey Wooly rabbit.** A very small bunny, even a mature Jersey Wooly Rabbit will merely weigh up to about three pounds. These rabbits are warm and friendly. They are also very tamed, clever and charming. The Jersey Wooly Rabbit loves to be with their owner all the time. Unlike other rabbits, these rabbits like to be handled and pet. They are quiet, calm rabbits that are easy to look after. These traits make the ideal pets for both young and adult. They love their long fur to be brushed or combed, no squirming or anything. For adult rabbits, their coats need to be brushed once a month. It will require just a bit more than that when it is infantile, until it loses its baby fur. Identified as the Jersey Wooly Rabbit in the United States, this rabbit is also recognized as the Dwarf Angora Rabbit in Australia and Europe. It was in 1970 when it was developed by Bonnie Seeley of New Jersey (USA).

- ❖ **Jersey Wooly Rabbit** - In the United States, it was documented by the American Rabbit Breeders Association (A.R.B.A.) in 1988, as the Jersey Wooly Rabbit.
- ❖ **Dwarf Angora Rabbit** - In Australia (and Europe), this rabbit is acknowledged as the Dwarf Angora Rabbit, and it established by the Australian Show Rabbit Council in 1997.

They are fat little bunnies with small features and they weigh around 3 pounds.. They have short ears and a superb thick long wool fur that is very easy to take care of, especially as this rabbit aged. The first coat has more protector hair than the second layer of coat, so is not prone to dryness.

The Jersey Wooly Rabbits or Dwarf Angora Rabbits come in a range of colors and patterns as well as agouti (wild rabbit), self (one color all over), and shaded patterns. Additional pleasant colors consist of black, blue, chocolate, smoke pearl, blue tort, chestnut, pointed white, siamese sable, and black otter.



[emerson.bccls.org/programforyouth.htm](http://emerson.bccls.org/programforyouth.htm)  
Jersey Wooly rabbit

**Mini Rex rabbits.** Mini Rex rabbit's outer feature is similar to the features of larger version of rex rabbits. They are described as one of the classy and sporty rabbit breed. It is considered to be children safe and great as house pet. Mini Rex has a normal size that makes handling them easier. They are outgoing and playful thus love to play his toys all the time. Cleaning their fur and feeding doesn't require special instructions for this rabbit. The Mini Rex grows to 3.5-4.5 lbs. They have string body built with good shoulder and hip widths. Their ears stand straight and upright. Having soft and neat fur are one of his best features. When you stroke his fur, you'd think you're touching cashmere. The longest outer hairs have been bred away and the secondary guard hairs have been cut to the same length as the secondary hairs. Though there are tons of special colors of Mini Rex, they have to be exacting colors if they are going to be show bunnies relatively than pets. But those that are pets are every bit as cuddly and soft. The Mini Rex varieties permitted for showing are: Black, Blue, Castor, Chinchilla, Chocolate, Himalayan, Lilac, Lynx, Opal, Red, Seal, Tortoise Broken color (any documented color and white with the omission of Himalayan) and Red-eyed White.



[rabbits.mythicaldan.es.com/minirex.html](http://rabbits.mythicaldan.es.com/minirex.html)  
Lilac Mini Rex buck



**Silver Marten rabbits.** The Silver Marten rabbit is a robust rabbit though he has a normal sized body. They grow up to be between 6 1/2 to 8 1/2 pounds and have nice features. The soft fur they have is one of their best features. The coat of mature rabbit has a distinctive look and unique marks on it. The Black Silver Marten, which is the most universal color seen at shows, has a wonderful disparity of black and silver lining under his belly. They are great pets though they tend to be more shy than any other rabbits. They are naughty and love to play around with their toys. They also are fond of toys that they can flip about in their cage. They have big ears too, that if you'd look close, you'd think it's big as his body. These rabbits are measured to be a standard breed rabbit, but can grow a bit bigger than the usual size. They weigh between 6.5 to 8.5 lbs. when full-fledged. These rabbits are breed for rabbit show but they can also be good as pets. The coat on the Silver Marten unique feature that make almost everyone to have a second look on this rabbit. Silver Martens show great beauty because of their unique colors and markings. Color varieties consist of black, blue, chocolate, or sable; with silver-tipped guard hairs and silver white markings to the eyes, mouth, and chin and under parts. The Black Silver Martens are the most widespread at shows and have an eye-catching disparity between their black and silver white fur.



[flickr.com/photos/8930168@N06/2336089794](https://www.flickr.com/photos/8930168@N06/2336089794)

Silver Marten rabbit



**Holland Lop rabbit.** This rabbit is the smallest and the most well-liked of the lop-eared rabbits. The Holland Lop and the Mini Lop are small versions of the Lop-eared Rabbit. Their names came from the land of Holland where they originated.

They are very friendly and playful and perfect for any first time owner. They are very sweet and cuddly. They love to play with their toys and with their owners as well. Holland Lops don't need bigger cage and does not like to eat a lot. Holland Lops have wide long ears, which hang down near their cheeks. Their body structure is made-up to look large and huge but they in fact have a small bone structure and they don't weigh that much. They have broad shoulders, deep chests, and short thick legs. Being the smallest lop-eared rabbit, their utmost adult size is 4.0 pounds except for showing they ought to be about 3.5 lbs. Holland Lops come in several color shades though they are particularly seen in fawn, white, fawn and white, black and white, and tortoise shell colors.



[www.thfsaynora.com/show\\_news\\_2005\\_2006.htm](http://www.thfsaynora.com/show_news_2005_2006.htm)

Holland Lop rabbit

# DEFINITION OF WILD BABY BUNNIES

When you happen to see a wild rabbit in your place like your backyard, don't panic. Make sure that their nesting place is not destroyed nor they are not abandoned by their mother. It is important to check if they are alone or not.

If you are finally sure that the mother rabbit is gone, then it's time for you take the wild baby bunnies with you before any predators could eat them up. Try to locate a nearest wildlife center so you could give to them the baby rabbits. Health professionals and rehabilitator are knowledgeable about wild animals thus leaving the wild bunnies into their hands will only make things easier for you and safer for the bunnies.

According to the dictionary, the word wild means with out any human connections which makes this wild bunny wild because they are living without the proper care of humans. They can survive on their own.

Female cottons really don't dig their own holes or burrows. A female cottontail rabbit's territory is 7-9 acres while a male's array can be up to 100 acres. Aged female cotton makes her own nest for protection.

Pregnant cotton waits in her nest for her time to give birth. She make sure that she and her soon to be litters are all safe and protected against any predators in the forest as well against male rabbit for male rabbits do kill litters because they think that these poor babies are going to be their competitor in the future.

The mother cotton covered her nest with dries bushes, twigs and lots of grasses to cover it form any animals lurking in the forest. She hides there together with her litters under those shrubs.

If by any chance you have to give the wild rabbits some aid, make sure you put them on a cardboard lined with hay to keep them warm. Give the same basic care you give to domestic rabbits.

Judging their age is very important. Do not combine wild rabbits to your domestic rabbits for they might get some disease and infections from them. After you fed them for let's say a week or two then you have to put it back on the forest because wild bunnies only survive in the forests.

If you need to feed them, try using syringe. Never use eye dropper especially when the rabbit is still very small. The formula might reach their lungs and could cause pneumonia or other respiratory blockage.

You don't have to make a large amount of milk formula for they don't drink that much. If the rabbit is dehydrated then you must feed them with Pedialyte. Prepare formula ahead and store it inside the refrigerator to avoid spoilage. But if you're going to feed it to the bunny, make sure that it is lukewarm enough resembling their mother's milk.

For about two weeks you can start feeding them with hay, alfalfa, carrots, broccoli but never ice berg lettuce and cabbage.

Baby wild bunnies are just like domestic rabbits. But they are more sensitive and don't like to handled or pet. They tend to get away from your hand when you try to hold them. They can even be motionless to pretend they are relaxed to make your grip relaxed too then it is their cue to escape your hand and hop away. They are also more edgy compared to other domestic rabbits.

They may even get hurt when they try to protect themselves from your other pets such as dogs and cats. They too like domestic rabbits are looking for their right home.

Wild life rescuers are thankful when you turned over the wild animals you found in the woods for they are the only one with knowledge on how to take care of the wild animals such as the sensitive wild baby bunnies.



[www.flickr.com/photos/fftang/117241668/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/fftang/117241668/)

Baby English wild rabbit

# DIFFERENT KINDS OF WILD BABY RABBITS

**Arctic Hare.** Like the Snowshoe hare, this rabbit has a white fur and could change as the season changes. Their fur turns red in the summer heat though most of their kind stays as white as snow all throughout the year. This is a big hare and lives in the snowy mountains. Their thick coat is perfect for there cold surroundings.



[www.wildlifenorthamerica.com/.../arcticus.html](http://www.wildlifenorthamerica.com/.../arcticus.html)

Arctic hare



**Black Jackrabbit.** Jackrabbits have huge ears. These rabbits can control their body according to their surroundings by using their huge ears. This helps him to cool down when it's hot and to keep himself warm when it's cold season. They rather live on open areas wherein they can easily spot their predators. With its long, rangy legs can sprint in bursts of up to 36 mph. Their quick run helps them escape many of their enemies. Their soles are covered with thick fur. This helps them protect their feet from heat especially on the desert lands. Their fur is a silver and tan color that blends in well with the desert and in thicket of bushes surroundings that it lives in. Jackrabbits can consume almost anything that comes from the woodland such as rough grasses, leaves, and twigs. They will too devour sagebrush and cacti. They usually eat their meals at night. They preserve as much as water as possible in their bodies and even eat their own poops to get the moisture out of it. Jackrabbits are great eaters for a few numbers of jackrabbits can eat as much as one normal sized cow in one day. The jackrabbit is found in the western United States and northern Mexico, and they too are starting to become extinct. People put up structured gap and toxic to prevent these rabbits from coming in their place.



[www.kwb.org/photo\\_gallery\\_mammals.htm](http://www.kwb.org/photo_gallery_mammals.htm)

Black Jackrabbit

**Desert Cottontail.** Cottontails are named following their tail, which is formed like a cottony ball.

The mature desert cottontail is light colored, tan to gray, with a yellowish tinge. The underside of the body is whitish. It frequently has an orange-brown throat patch. The tail is rounded and looks resembling a cottonball, but is darker above, white below. The length of a desert cottontail is thirteen to seventeen inches; ears average three to four inches long; and the average weight is two to three pounds. Females are bigger than the males.

Their feet are big and regular three inches long. If you will notice, they will leave a tracks that look like number seven behind when they hop away. It is because of their feet structures.

The desert cottontail's nest is located at the gloomy part of the desert and even under the bushes.

A female may bear litters year round. She may bear twenty to thirty young in four to five litters. A standard litter has two to six young, which are natural sightless, furless and almost dead like. The mother returns to the den place to provide for her young. The young are weaned at two weeks old, and they leave the nest area three weeks following birth.

Desert cottontails are extra "aloof" than jackrabbits. They may not interact with their neighbors, but they stand closer neighbors than do jackrabbits. Desert cottontails hardly ever wander away far from their nest.



**Spring Hare.** The springhare looks like a kangaroo, with its little front legs and very potent hind limbs. It has huge eyes and long ears. The wool is long and soft and yellowish-brown in shade with blackish highlights on the head and back. The shade of its tail is black. Length of head and body is up to 16 inches, with the tail even longer. It weighs up to 9 lbs.

These rabbits live and dig holes and their holes have immense numerous diverse openings to the exterior, which may be barren oft from the within in a few cases. When it comes out his hole, he leaps out in the air as if he's flying. This way he could trick some predators lurking around to go away. They are vegetarian and feed on bulbs, tubers, and roots. they are also sometimes consider as pets for they can cause a lot of distractions on the plantation. It can go about in the darkness to get his food and it could work up so fast.



[www.hopperhome.com/bunny\\_blog3.htm](http://www.hopperhome.com/bunny_blog3.htm)

Spring hare

**Riverine rabbit.** The Riverine Rabbit or *Bunolagus monticularis*, as well as identified as the Bushman Rabbit or Bushman Hare, is now starting to become extinct for their total average are now down to 200 species. This rabbit has been originated in the central and southern regions of the Karoo Desert of South Africa's Cape Province.

Its distinctive feature has a black stripe running from the corner of the mouth over the cheek. It has a brown woolly tail, cream-colored fur on its belly and throat, and a broad, club-like hind foot. Its tail is pale brown with a tinge of black toward the tip. It is a night-time species.

Most of their types are now in the safest hand of wild life shelters on Karoo. There are also some rehabilitation centers for wild life rabbits that er now taking good care of them.



[www.riverinerabbit.co.za/images/thumbnails/pa...](http://www.riverinerabbit.co.za/images/thumbnails/pa...)

Riverine rabbit

**Riparian Brush Rabbit.** This rabbit lives on a bushy environment. It usually stays in oak tree and shrubbery. The Brush Rabbit does not hollow out its own holes, but uses other's holes and burrows instead. In the San Francisco Bay Area, this kind of rabbit lives in bushes than in grassland environment. It uses the internal brush of the wasteland as their primary place to stay. Studies completed on the Brush Rabbit in Oregon also showed that these rabbits don't like to live outside their territory. Riparian Brush rabbit uses the grassland in hot seasons and the bushes in wet season as his nesting place.

The Brush Rabbit is smaller than a lot of the other cottontails, and not like the majority of them, the bottom of its tail is grey somewhat than white. The upper side of the Brush Rabbit's coat varies from light brown to grey in color, at the same time as the underside is typically at all times white. Fully developed rabbit's measures anywhere from 10-14 inches long and rarely weigh over two pounds.

Huge members of these rabbit breed have been recorded, in Oregon, *ubericolor*; in California, *cinerascens*, *mariposae*, *riparius*, *tehamae* and *trowbridgii*; and in Baja California, *cerrosensis*, *exiguus*, *howelli*, *peninsularis* and *rosaphagus*. Variety *bachmani*, *macrorhinus* and *virgulti* are less biologically limited. *Sylvilagus bachmani riparius*, the Riparian Brush Rabbit, is extremely in danger of extinction; previously copious along the San Joaquin River and Stanislaus River, it is at the present abridged to inhabitants of a few hundred in the Caswell Memorial State Park.

Its predators such as the Cougar, the Coyote, foxes, the Bobcat, weasels, and a mixture of raptors and snakes. Its zig-zag way of hopping is one of their ways to disguise and fooled their predators.



[www.fws.gov/.../RBrush\\_Rabbit.htm](http://www.fws.gov/.../RBrush_Rabbit.htm)  
Riparian Brush rabbit

**Sumatra Short-eared Rabbit.** The Sumatra short-eared rabbit lives in forests at 600 to 1400m. This rabbit has been recorded barely from the moorland of the Barisan series in southwestern Sumatra. Head and body length ranges from 350 to 400mm. Tail length is just about 15mm. The background body color of this rabbit is a buffy gray. Striking brown stripes, including a mid-dorsal stripe from the shoulders to the rump, pattern the face, legs, and body. Their coat is soft and thick. The rump and tail are vivid red, and the undersides white. They like to feed on juicy stalks and leaves of understory plants. Pet Sumatra short eared rabbit ate rice, corn, bread, bananas, and pineapple.

Sumatra Short-eared rabbit is night-time species. It rests throughout the day on the forest ground in holes dug by other animals. They rather spend their time resting inside the holes than outside the forest.



<http://media.photobucket.com/image/Sumatra%20Short-eared%20Rabbit/sayo2/rabbits/info-Riverine-rabbit-sitting-uprigh.jpg>  
Sumatra Short Eared rabbit

**Swamp or Water Rabbit.** They are often referred as cane cutters. Swamp rabbits have similar outer features to eastern cottontails (*Sylvilagus floridanus*) but have a propensity to be bigger in body mass and darker in fur. They are known for their dark colors; proportionately shorter and rounder ears; coarser body fur that is dark grayish or yellowish brown with coarse black peppering or mottling on the head and upperside of the body; a cinnamon colored eye-ring, a rusty coloration to the tops of the hind feet; and heavier toenails. The back of the neck is somewhat rusty, but the patch is little and vague compared to cottontails. The sides of the head and body are paler than the back. The underparts, counting the underside of the tail, are white with the exception of the buffy-gray underside of the neck and chest.

Female swamp rabbit is larger than the male swamp rabbit and much heavier.

The average adult weighs over 2.2 kg (4.8 lb) with some rabbits weighing as much as 2.7 kg (6 lb).

Swamp rabbits are still to night-time, being most vigorous at sunrise and twilight and all through the night. They are normally not interested in associating with other swamp rabbits only for the duration of the breeding season. Swamp rabbits are fighters, not like many other rabbits. The males are vocal and reveal "chinning" - a chemical compound produced and secreted by animals to influence their own. This marking exhibit most eminent in the European rabbit. Vocal suffering calls consist of squeals and high-pitched squeaks. Swamp rabbits are mysterious and could hardly ever see apart from when pushed down from their hidden latent spot usually on a thick log.

Swamp rabbits use covered place in daytime to protect themselves from predators. They use thick logs and grasses to cover their resting place. They stay in their resting place and do not go out all the time. When flushed, they escape in a zig-zag pattern, and can arrive at speeds of up to 48 mph.

The swamp rabbit dives in the water headfirst to protect himself for any predators. They are indeed good swimmers and could lie still below the water to hide from predators with their nose only visible above.

The male swamp rabbit are not good in mating. They usually bite female swamp rabbits. The numbers of male swamp rabbits now dominates the female ones. They are now greater than the female swamp rabbits thus making their numbers start to become lesser and lesser and sooner they will be in danger of extinction.



[www.nature.org/.../indiana/misc/art21584.html](http://www.nature.org/.../indiana/misc/art21584.html)

Swamp rabbit



**Volcano Rabbit or Zacatuche.** The volcano rabbit weighs 390 - 600 g (0.86 - 1.3 lb). It is normally originate between 2800 and 4250 m (9200 - 13,900') in languish forests with a impenetrable bushes of bunch grass ("zacaton") and rocky substrates. The volcano rabbit eats on the green leaves of zacaton grasses, the young leaves of spiny herbs and the bark of alder trees. It is generally nocturnal and crepuscular. It lives in groups of 2 - 5 animals in runways and holes among grass tussocks. The burrows can be as long as 5 m and as much as 40 cm antiestablishment. There are usually 2 or 3 young per litter, born in a dissident nest.

In view of the fact that at least the early 1900's the volcano rabbit has rumor has it that been constrained to the slopes of numerous volcanoes and contiguous ridges adjoining the Valley of Mexico on the east and south, near Mexico City. As of 1990, Its existence was limited for the most part to irregular areas of core territory covering a total of roughly 280 sq km on the slopes of four volcanoes.

Volcano rabbit are now starting to become in danger of extinction because of too much reforestation and hunting. They now hide in the lower part of the volcano wherein they feel more safe.

The volcano rabbit is more often than not nocturnal and crepuscular, even though it can also be full of life by day, predominantly when the sky is cloudy. It rest in holes and burrows among bushes and grass tussocks. The holes can be as long as 5 m and as much as 40 cm (1.3') underground. The hole entry is covered with bushes and grass tussock.



[forums.joeuser.com/307578](http://forums.joeuser.com/307578)

Volcano rabbit



**Snowshoe Hare.** One unique characteristic of the snowshoe hare is the way their fur color changes. For protection, in summer the hare is reddish brown above and white underneath, while in winter it becomes completely white, excluding for the tips of its ears, which stay black. Another unique traits this rabbits has is its hind feet, which are rather broad and they are covered with a thick coat in winter, which facilitates movement on the snow-covered earth. They can get to a length of two feet together with their two inch tail, and they can weight 3 to 4 lbs.

This hare is entirely vegetarian and likes to eat on many plant species in summer and bark and shoots in winter. Like the other kind of Lepus, the snowshoe hare is basically an aloof animal. Its usually includes holes, burrow and even under the bushes. The major predators of the snowshoe hare are coyotes, bobcats, lynxes, red foxes, weasels - and man. rabbits dig holes as their resting place while hare don't dug at all. Rabbits try to protect himself from threat in the burrows, while hares run. Hares have consequently modified long legs for running and large ears to hear and sense nearing danger.



[borealphoto.com/.../2/236590234\\_deas8](http://borealphoto.com/.../2/236590234_deas8)

Snowshoe hare

## *Chapter 5*

# Having Fun With Your Bunny



# HAVING FUN WITH YOUR BUNNY

One of the main ingredients of having fun with your rabbit is to know what makes your pet rabbit happy. Some said that their pet rabbit rather lie down and eat than play with his toys. By not introducing toys to your pet rabbit, this trigger them to feel bored and rabbit gets bored and when rabbits get bored they tend to hurt themselves and destroy your stuff.

Having fun with your bunny is another way to enjoy your pet's company. Through having fun with your bunny you can form lasting friendship and wonderful memories together

Rabbits are like small kids. Buy them expensive toys and sooner you'll find them chewing the box and ignoring the toy completely. Most owners don't believe that rabbit needs toys but they usually find their pets chewing on the electric wiring in their house which is very dangerous. This is the rabbit adaptation of have fun, so it's up to you whether you are going to give them toys to keep them busy or let your wiring in the house be chewed.

Rabbits are very much fond of cardboards. Try making some large holes on it so your rabbit can go in and out of it. Cardboards are also great for chewing just make sure that they will swallow any pieces of it for it could also cause health problems such as indigestion or respiratory blockage. Homemade toys are great alternative toys for your pet rabbit such as toilet rolls, small plastic balls and even old telephone book and newspaper. Just make sure that these are non-toxic and won't hurt your rabbit. Try to buy organic materials when making homemade toys for them for this is the safest and surest way you can assure that they are in good hands whether you are there to play with them or not.

Some bunnies even like to play chase games just like dogs. Make sure to make toys that they could grip with their teeth. Birds' toys are also great as well as toilet roll rings. They will pick up their toys in their mouths

and toss them with a flick of the head, or bring it back to you. Some bunnies take pleasure in playing a good entertainment of run after. Your bunny will touch you then they will expect you to touch them back.

Bunnies are playful. They will from time to time take something you are holding and running away with. This trick gives your pet rabbit so much fun. Do not brood if the papers they shred are important, at least your rabbit had a wonderful time.

There are many benefits to having fun with your bunny. For you it may suggest rest or delight. For your rabbit it offers a possibility to tie with you and foster a friendship. Playing provides your bunny with psychological encouragement and bodily work out, both of which are necessary to bunny's physical condition.

Toys are most excellent when they deal with bunny manners, like the cardboard castles, it stimulates the brain. Straw mats and boxes full of paper shreds are excellent for digging. Cardboard tunnels concentrate on their digging holes instincts. Cardboard boxes or cat boxes build great toys to go up or hop onto. Wicker baskets are great for chewing and climbing on but make sure that this is organic.

Other toys can consist of unprocessed wood blocks, hard synthetic baby toys such as rattles, and fake balls with bells inside, pine cones, oatmeal boxes and paper towel rolls, and towels. There are toys completed purposely for bunnies and most of these are toxic free too. Cherry, redwood and peach and cedar are harmful to your pet rabbit so be careful when giving wood blocks to them.

Try having fun with your bunny at least once a day. They get stressed out easily from just simply walking in and out of his cage and if they are kept in their cages for too long. Rabbits are most on the go in the sunup hours and nightfall, so try to work up your schedule, spend some short time with your pet. Rabbits aren't similar to cats or dogs; they are not favor of you always picking them up. It makes them extremely jumpy and

edgy. They are contented if you just sit on the floor with them and let them explore you. It can take some time before the rabbit gets relax with you, but once they are they will surely beg for you too pet them but do not touch their chins and bellies.

They love to hop around, hide under and even jump into your lap. Set up a miniature obstacle blocks outside his cage so he could play around. Just some empty boxes can be heaps of excitement for a rabbit. It's excellent to have a toy or two in the cage to keep him from feeling bored. Good toys for bunnies can be found at pet stores but you can as well just furnish them cardboard made toys.

As far as taking bunny out, if you mean out of the cage, but inside your house, at least once a day. You could let your bunny out in the backyard but you have to be extremely cautious. You should watch closely where your bunny is going. They can escape your fences because of their small boy and they too can be eaten or injured by outside predators. There's also issues of fleas, ticks, and plant dangers, most rabbits didn't know how to tell which good plants to bad plants is. Craft bunny harnesses are now available for taking them on walks, but you need all the luck in getting them into the thing and out. In wide-ranging I would suggest in opposition to bringing your bunny outdoors. They can be just as glad running around your domicile and this is safer.

Then lastly, if you have hardwood or tile type floors your bunny won't be very happy with them. Their feet are completely covered with coat thus they can't get grip to run around. Get a cloth rug or even just lay down some worn out blankets or old clothes when you attend to them out.

# MANY WAYS OF HAVING FUN WITH YOUR BUNNY

Rabbits are very playful, warm and cuddly so they can get bored and irritated with no trouble, if they have nothing to do. Rabbits love to have fun, investigate, and take part around the house, especially with their human companions. If your rabbit trusts you and has a good relationship with you, then you and your pet will surely have a great time. When they are having fun, you see how much they love to hop, toss toys around, leap around and have run after games with you.

Here are some basic steps you need to know in having fun with your bunny thus also have benefits to your pet rabbit:

**Step 1** Purchase some rabbit-safe toys for your rabbit to play with. There are many choices in the market today. But be sure that these toys are non-toxic. There are toys like assorted chews, balls with chimes and many more.

**Step 2** Sit on the floor with your rabbit. Rabbits simply just love to cuddle and play around on the floor with their masters.

**Step 3** If the toy has bells on it, shake it before you put it down near your pet rabbit. Observe and soon he will grab this and toss it around.

**Step 4** You can also give them clean toilet rolls. You can also put some hay inside it so he could play and at the same time have his nosh too.

**Step 5** Make use of the toys to play with your rabbit. Be careful not to scared him. Let him sniff the toy first to get himself familiar with it before introducing any games. make sure too that his toys are lead free which is very harmful to their health.

**Step 6** Offer your rabbit newspaper or a telephone book to tear up. They love to chew these kind of stuff just make sure they do not swallow any of it for this could lead to respiratory blockage.



[blog.rabbitnetwork.org/?m=200604](http://blog.rabbitnetwork.org/?m=200604)  
Rabbits shredding newspapers

Most pet rabbits have tendencies to get bored. These comprise Tans, Checkered Giants, and Britannia Petites, along with others. Toys keep your rabbit from being bored, and it also keeps their brain to work fast. Toys that make your rabbit more smart and alert are the most excellent. A few bird toys are also advisable for these kind toys; they let their brain do the work and this example is good for rabbits too.

Toys can also keep your pet rabbit healthy and could also stimulate their brain activities. Toys are great way to keep them occupied and free from any stress and boredom which are both not good for your pet rabbit.

If you use toys to play with your bunny, your bunny will relate fun with you. This will make wonderful memories and lasting friendship.





[freespace.virgin.net/lewis.goodhand/wavbg.htm](http://freespace.virgin.net/lewis.goodhand/wavbg.htm)  
Henry - buck rabbit playing with his toy

# DEFINITION OF INDOOR PET RABBIT



[www.ziggityzoom.com/parentsguide/content/bunn...](http://www.ziggityzoom.com/parentsguide/content/bunn...)

Indoor pet rabbits

Indoor pet rabbits are great companions. They might look shy when they are behind the pet shop door but wait until you get them home and discover all their charming ways they have for you in store. They can make you laugh and could even relaxes you when your upset or tired.

Keeping indoor pet rabbit has been observed for many years now and found this kind of pet very rewarding but make sure that you spayed your pet first to avoid any related problems about training. Indoor pet rabbit is also can be train the right way on where they should deposit their droppings.

Indoor pet rabbit are now considered to be one the latest trend in having pets. Vets are now making spayed rabbits to avoid any future problems regarding training of the rabbits. People now start to own rabbits not just only in the country but even in the city and now all over the world. These are said to be the most rewarding pet ever just like any housepets such as cats and dogs. It doesn't matter whether the owner is a child or an

adult for they both enjoy having this pet as their own. They find friendship with them that sometimes humans can't give nor offer.

Indoor pet rabbits are much easier and less costly to own compared to other pets. But though they are low cost pets, they still need foods such as pellets, veggies and fruits for nourishment, some vitamins, fresh water, vet visits and meds in case some health problems will happen.

It doesn't matter whether you're going to keep a large or small rabbit as long as you give them what they need. Love and attention should be on your list because through this you will have a lasting friendship with them. But do not ever try to keep wild bunnies inside your house, for they are not safe with kids around. Be sure that you provide them with all their needs such as food, shelter, meds and vet check ups.

Though some prefer not to keep rabbits as pets because of the odor their droppings leave, some still find these fuzzy creatures lovable and warm. They are most likely to compare to other house pet for they can be feed with no hassle, and even litter train them. Rabbits may not have the traits of speaking their mind out but they do know how to express their feelings by thumping their hind legs.

Rabbits should also be introduced slowly to other rabbits before you joined them in one hutch or cage. Also make sure they are already spayed or neutered. Doe and bucks can live in one cage, as well as brothers and sisters. But do not ever try to mate brothers and sisters. Some male rabbits are trouble makers and they could kill the female rabbits instead of mating with them. Female rabbits are very timid and edgy and most of the time, only a sound from a barking dog could kill them.

Make sure that you will not leave the new rabbits inside the cage or hutch because in a few days a fight between these creatures might build up. Observe them closely if you need to separate them from others then do it to avoid any injuries or even death.

Keep in mind that indoor pet rabbits are like us, humans that need special kind of love and affection. Breeds may differ but the love we will give to them are just the same. Rabbits are very smart creatures. They know when they are being loved or not. When they feel neglected they get so down that they will soon experience health problems that could eventually end up to death. Show them that you care for them, they have feelings too and most of the time could even make you laugh more than anyone else.



*Love Them!*

# Sources

## CHAPTER 1

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