



# Rabbit

*Oryctolagus cuniculus*

## Care Sheet

**Caging needed:** There are several options to house rabbits inside. They can live free-reign in a bunny proofed room/rooms, or they can be contained within a puppy pen, bunny condo, or large rabbit cage. If contained, their space should always be large enough so they can hop around, and they should be let out of their pen for at least a few hours everyday for exercise.

**Minimum cage requirements: 6ft x 2ft and at least 1.5 feet high**

**Accessories:** In the cage set up you will need to include a litter box with a thin layer of rabbit-safe, recycled newspaper pellet litter at the bottom of the litter box, hay rack, 2 food bowls, water bowl or bottle, a place to hide, and toys. The hay rack can be placed over the litter box; this tends to help litter train the rabbit while keeping messes down.

**Diet:** Unlimited Timothy hay should be supplied daily along with rabbit pellets and fresh veggies. A standard guideline is 1/4 cup of pellet and 2 cups of fresh veggies per 6 lbs. of body weight per day. There is a large variety of vegetables a rabbit can eat, but every rabbit digests food differently. Do your research and test different veggies to see which your rabbit prefers.

**Bedding:** A fleece blanket will work once the rabbit is litter trained. Pee pads can be placed beneath the blanket to help absorb urine and odors until your rabbit is litter trained.

**Misc:** You should consider adopting more than one rabbit. They are social creatures that enjoy the company of other rabbits. Spaying/neutering your rabbit makes for a longer happier life for your pet. Males won't mark their territory, males and females will be able to live together without reproducing (male/female pairs are make better friends), and litter training will be a lot easier. Rabbits are naturally clean animals and wash themselves frequently, but you still need to groom your rabbit on a regular basis. Rabbits go through shedding cycles a couple times a year. It's important to brush your rabbit to remove all the excess fur. Otherwise, your rabbit could ingest it and have serious digestive issues. **Rabbits require a lot of time and attention**, if you do not have the time to exercise and feed them properly please consider a different pet.

