

Your New Bun

Some things you should know....

- I am NOT a toy. I am a lifetime commitment. I can live from 7-10 years old!
- My main source of food needs to be hay. Timothy hay is one of the best.
- Pellets are good too, just not too much! In general, feed 1/8 cup pellets per pound of body weight. This is usually about 2-3 tablespoons per rabbit daily.
- Water Bowls are better than a water most buns use. We drink a whole lot more water than you would think.
- You will need a cage that is at least four times the size of your rabbit or an outdoor hutch at least 30 x 36 x 20 inches.

 Unsafe Rabbit Food unhealthy - even deadly corn X, mix pellets (muesli) X, yogurt drops (dairy) X, cookies (even if labeled for rabbits) X, avocado X, cereal X, bread X, wheat X, onions X SAFE ALTERNATIVES romaine lettuce, parsley, cilantro, plain brown pellets, basil, small piece of apple, banana, blueberry, strawberry, carrot	Recommended Veggies A variety is necessary in order to obtain the necessary nutrients. Include one each day that contains Vitamin A, indicated by an *. Add one vegetable to the diet at a time, and eliminate if it causes soft stools or diarrhea. Avoid vegetables that are not on this list. Select at least 3 daily: - Arugula - Asparagus - Basil - Bok choy* - Borage - Cilantro - Clover - Dill - Escarole - Fennel tops - Lettuce (green, red leaf, or romaine – NO iceberg or light green leaf)* - Lemon Grass - Mint - Snow pea pods (the flat edible kind)* - Radicchio - Raspberry & Blackberry leaves – including thorns! - Swiss Chard* - Watercress* - Wheat grass*
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- Wire puppy pens (also called X-pens) at least 30" high make great enclosures and can easily be configured into different shapes to match your available space. Most pet supply stores sell these pens. You may need to protect your floor or carpet, and this can be done with using an inexpensive area rug, plastic office chair mat, linoleum remnant, exercise mat, or other bunnysafe covering.
- Temperatures above 80°F can be life threatening. Fans won't cool your bunny because rabbits don't sweat and can't benefit from evaporative cooling. If your rabbit shows symptoms including panting, drooling, rapid breathing or pulse, or lethargy; wipe down his ears with a cool rag, put him in his carrier along with a large ice bottle and get to the vet IMMEDIATELY! On a hot day leave your bunny in his cage/pen with frozen water bottles/ice packs or tiles that you can cool in the refrigerator.
- Cedar Shavings- These are very bad for your bunny and other pets. The aromatic hydrocarbons released by softwood beddings can cause both respiratory and liver damage in rabbits and other small animals.
- Your pet's cage should be at least four times the size of the rabbit.

Some Good Toys to Start With

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- Paper bags and cardboard boxes for crawling inside, scratching, and chewing. Rabbits like them much more when there are at least two entry points into the boxes.
- Cardboard concrete forms for burrowing (available at hardware and home improvement stores)
- Hard plastic or wooden cat, bird, and baby toys that roll or can be tossed or hung from the top of the cage and chewed or hit.

Some Good groups to be on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/generalrabbitcare/> General Rabbit Care

Good Books for Rabbits

Rabbits for Dummies

Storey's Guide to Raising Rabbits : Breeds, Care, Facilities

Rabbit Supplies CheckList

- Solid-bottom cage or large dog crate
- Carrier
- Litter box with hay or pelleted litter
- Grass hay and hay rack
- Good-quality rabbit pellets
- Sturdy ceramic or metal food bowl
- Ceramic water bowl or water bottle that attaches to cage
- Grooming brush
- Digging box and safe chew toys

Behavior and Handling

- Rabbits are prey animals and timid by nature, so be patient if your pet seems shy at first. Hand-feeding treats is a nice way to get acquainted.
- Pick up your rabbit by supporting his forequarters with one hand and his hindquarters with the other. Handle with care—an accidental drop can result in broken legs and back!
- NEVER pick up a rabbit by the ears or scruff—this can cause very serious injury