

## Habitat Needs

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### Housing

- A hutch or wire cage provides good housing.
- The size of the habitat should be four times the size of your rabbit, consider it's adult size when purchasing the home.
- Habitats should allow visual contact with other rabbits if possible, be large enough for the rabbits to fully stretch out and high enough for the rabbit to stand. They should have an area to withdraw to and a shelf for resting on.
- Habitats should have opportunities for "exercise" and social interaction.
- A hide box should be included.
- No special lighting is required, room lighting is sufficient with a 12-hour photo period.

### Enrichment

- Free-feeding of hay, salt and mineral blocks, and wood chews are helpful ways to prevent boredom and promote dental health.
- Rabbits enjoy tossing things, provide a safe toy that he/she can toss around the cage to prevent boredom.
- Allow your rabbit supervised time out of the cage to stretch his legs, be sure all chewables are out of reach especially electrical cords.

## Nutrition

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### Staple Diet

- Rabbits need a high-fiber diet. Fiber content should be at a minimum of 18%, ideally 20 to 25%.
- Timothy Hay or other grass hays should be fed freely to prevent boredom, to aid in digestion, and to prevent hairballs.
- Avoid alfalfa, it's too high in protein unless fed to a juvenile.
- Young rabbits require higher protein, lower fiber, and higher calcium than an adult rabbit.
- Suggested feeding amount: 1/4 to 1/2 cup of pelleted diet per 6 pounds of body weight.
- Offer fresh fruits and vegetables daily, limit fresh fruits to no more than 2 Tbs daily.
- After a few hours remove uneaten fresh fruits and vegetables.
- Offer an unlimited amount of hay daily or multiple times per day.

### Water

- Water can be supplied in a water bottle and should be changed daily.
- Check the valve on the water bottle daily to ensure it's working properly.



## Health

Common illnesses that may affect your rabbit

- Dental disease
- GIT disease
- Hair-ball impaction

## Extra Information

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- The lifespan of a rabbit is about 6 - 10 years.
- Rabbits can be easily house broken, although never allow your rabbit free roam of the home without supervision.
- When purchasing a rabbit, it's always a good idea to have it spayed or neutered. This will prevent health and environmental problems in your rabbit's future, especially for females as they are seriously prone to uterine cancer.

