

# Rabbits



Know what your rabbits need.



## FOOD AND WATER

- Rabbits mostly need to eat good quality hay or grass with some pellet food and vegetables. You can ask your vet for advice.
- Always make sure your rabbits have fresh, clean water – use a drip-feed water bottle available from pet shops.



## A GOOD HOME

- Give your rabbits a properly built, extensive living enclosure with a spacious shelter. The living enclosure and shelter should be protected from potential predators, direct sunlight and wind or rain.
- Droppings and wet litter should be removed daily and bedding changed at least once a week. Wash, disinfect and thoroughly dry your rabbits' living area three or four times a year.



## COMPANY

- Make sure your rabbit has company – if he/she doesn't have another rabbit for company, be prepared to spend extra time playing with your rabbit every day.



## TO BEHAVE NORMALLY

- If your rabbits' shelter does not have a run attached, let them run and hop around during the day in a secure enclosure in the garden. Do not leave your rabbits in a hutch all day long.



## TO BE HEALTHY

- Get to know your rabbits – you will soon be able to spot the signs if something is wrong.
- Take your rabbits to the vet if they are unwell or injured. Don't leave it too late – if you are unsure, ask your vet for advice.

**This is very basic information.** Find out more about what your rabbits need. Talk to us on the RSPCA advice line: 0300 1234 555 or visit: [www.rspca.org.uk/petcare](http://www.rspca.org.uk/petcare)

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R A B B I T C A R E

## Your rabbits deserve the best care possible so make sure you are also prepared to:



- provide a big enough living area for each of your rabbits to lie fully stretched out in any direction, take a sequence of hops, turn around easily and sit up on their hind legs – without their ears touching the roof
- have your rabbits neutered to prevent unwanted pregnancies and stop fighting
- have your rabbits vaccinated against nasty diseases, and watch out for flystrike – ask your vet about this.



Rabbits are easy to house-train and may make affectionate household pets. But they do chew a lot, so all electric cables must be protected. They will need a safe, secure, restricted area when you leave them unattended.

# Did you know...

the law that protects pets has changed? You have a legal responsibility to care for your rabbits.

Find out more at: [www.rspca.org.uk/petcare](http://www.rspca.org.uk/petcare) or talk to us on the **RSPCA advice line: 0300 1234 555**

0300 numbers are charged at your carrier's national rate, inclusive of call packages.

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