

# Rabbit Information and Resources

Rabbits are intelligent, social animals who need affection. They can become wonderful companion animals if given a chance to interact with their human families.

If you are considering adopting a rabbit, here are just *some* of the things you should know:

- Rabbits may live eight to twelve years, so make sure you are ready for that kind of commitment.
- Rabbits need daily care. If they are not handled gently and often, they may not be comfortable with being picked up and cuddled.
- Rabbits love the company of other rabbits. If you have one bunny, think about getting him or her a companion.
- Rabbits are intelligent and curious, and consequently a bored rabbit can be a destructive and unhappy rabbit. Digging and chewing are among their favorite pastimes, so whether he's inside a cage or out, your rabbit needs plenty of toys to keep busy.
- Rabbits have a fairly delicate digestive system; to obtain necessary nutrients, they must be fed a varied diet.
- Rabbits prefer gentle, quiet environments so they may not fit in well with a hectic family life and rowdy pet dogs and cats.
- As with any family pet, your rabbit will need to see the vet for regular checkups.
- Rabbits should also be spayed or neutered to make them happier, healthier pets. Rabbits can be taught to use a litter box, especially if they are spayed or neutered.
- To control the temperature of the environment and to keep them safe from predators, rabbits should be kept inside.
- If kept outside, rabbits must be in a predator-proof area and must be kept cool during the hot weather. They must not be able to dig under fences and they need to be protected from air attacks by birds, not to mention all the other predators.



**Tip:** To find a vet who's experienced in treating rabbits, go to the House Rabbit Society's website at [www.rabbit.org/vets](http://www.rabbit.org/vets).

## Rabbit Resources on the Web

Best Friends Animal Society: [www.bestfriends.org/theanimals/petcare/bunnies.cfm](http://www.bestfriends.org/theanimals/petcare/bunnies.cfm)

Brambley Hedge Rabbit Rescue: [www.bhrabbitrescue.org](http://www.bhrabbitrescue.org)

House Rabbit Society: [www.rabbit.org](http://www.rabbit.org)

Rabbit Advocates: [www.adoptarabbit.com](http://www.adoptarabbit.com)

The Bunny Bunch S.P.C.R.: [www.bunnybunch.org](http://www.bunnybunch.org)

Zooh Corner Rabbit Rescue: [www.mybunny.org](http://www.mybunny.org)