

Toys for Rabbits

By Debby Widolf

Some people are surprised to hear that rabbits like to play with toys. Well, some of their “toys” are not what you would typically put in that category and rabbits might not play like cats and dogs. But, they do enjoy playing ... in their own way. They love to gnaw on, toss, push and rearrange their “toys” – and they are curious and excited about new playthings. Below is a list of safe “toys” that will keep your rabbits from getting bored and bring bunny fun into their lives.



A couple pointers: Most toys that are safe for parrots are safe for rabbits. Please don't buy or use anything treated with preservatives or chemicals. Keep the toys clean with mild soap and water, and replace or change the toys often to keep your rabbit interested. Here are some suggested toys for rabbits:

- Straw or wicker baskets
- Straw placemats and rugs or paper-plate holders
- Paper-towel or toilet-paper rolls (You can stuff these with hay for extra fun.)
- Large brown paper grocery bags (These are a fun place for bunnies to hide.)
- Rings with bells, such as a parrot toy or a Mason jar cover ring with a large bell attached using a key ring
- Most sturdy hanging parrot toys
- Whisk brooms (You can attach these to the cage or run.)
- Maze-type balls with a bell in the center (Make sure they are sturdy and not constructed of thin plastic.)
- Wooden clothespins (You can soak these in apple or cranberry juice to create a tasty chew.)
- Chunks of untreated wood (Avoid the cedars and aromatics.)
- Cardboard boxes with holes or doors cut into them
- PVC tubes (6 inches in diameter), cut into 3- or 4-foot lengths for tunnels (You can also use heavy cardboard tubes. Both can be found at home improvement stores.)
- Cylinder-shaped boxes, such as a rolled oats box, with the ends cut off
- Baby toys: sturdy, hard plastic “keys,” telephone rattles, etc.

- Newspaper (not the colored inserts, though)
- Towels and blankets (Rabbits love to rearrange them!)
- Platforms, small ramps or large blocks that the rabbits can jump up on
- A house or tunnel made of straw bales
- Shallow sand boxes or small kids' plastic pools filled with dirt for digging

There are also many wonderful and safe rabbit toys sold online. Two recommended sites are www.busybunny.com and www.BinkyBunny.com.

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