

Rabbit Housing Do's And Don'ts

Use these tips when finding a cage for a new pet rabbit.

By Rabbits USA editors

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Housing Do's

Choose a cage or pen that is at least four to five times the size of your rabbit.

Set up your rabbit's housing before you bring your pet home.

Make sure the floor of your rabbit's habitat offers plenty of solid flooring. A rabbit given no other choice than to sit on grating is more prone to foot ailments such as sore hocks.

Use heavy crocks and bowls so your rabbit cannot tip them over.

Use rabbit-safe litter to line the litter box, and change it at least every other day.

Trim your rabbit's nails to prevent them from becoming overgrown. Overgrown nails can catch on cage wires as your pet enters and exits the cage.

Housing Don'ts

Don't put your rabbit's home in an area far removed from the goings-on of your family — make sure your pet receives consistent, positive interaction.

Don't use harsh household cleaners around your rabbit or its cage.

Don't house your rabbit outdoors unless you are committed to spending a few hours each day to interact with it and you have taken precautions to ensure that your rabbit is protected from predators and temperature extremes and has supervised exercise opportunities.

Don't expect a singly-kept rabbit to be happy unless you can offer an enriching environment full of toys, exercise and positive human interaction.

Don't allow a rabbit to roam your home without rabbit-proofing first:

1. Move plants out of reach
2. Cover all electrical cords with plastic tubing or move them out of reach
3. Restrict your rabbit's access to furniture, rugs and similar objects