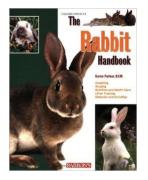


BUNNY BASICS





Before getting a pet bunny, I recommend reading a book about them first, so you know what you're getting into. Barron's The Rabbit Handbook is an excellent guide to bunny care.

Housing: Bunnies need a lot more room than some other small animals. They need to be able to hop around and exercise. Setting up a pen for your bunny is a great idea! It gives them more room for exercise and is generally easy to clean.

Look for a large cage with shelves (like

the one pictured). There is a fantastic cage setup that you can get at PetSmart. It has a nice bunny home with ramp and hideaway, and also comes with an attached play yard. It's the ideal bunny setup.





Diet: Bunnies should eat more hay than pellets. Timothy hay and orchard grass are great choices. Adults should never eat

alfalfa hay or alfalfa pellets (it's too rich in calcium and other nutrients that they don't need). Pellets made of timothy hay should be given ¼ cup twice a day. Oxbow products are the best.

Treats/Vitamins: Give only bunny appropriate treats and give them sparingly. It is a good idea to give the Oxbow Digestive Support tablet

daily to aid with digestion and prevent hairballs.

Water: Bunnies drink more water than most small animals and should always be provided a fresh supply, whether in a bottle or a heavy dish.

Veggies: Bunnies should have 1 ½ cups of vegetables every day. Spring greens, kale, parsley, cilantro, and broccoli are all good choices. Spinach can be given very sparingly, and carrots even more so.



Litter box: Use paper or pine pellet litter and change the box every other day. The used litter box material can be used as fertilizer if you want.



Grooming: Bunnies should be brushed at least weekly so they don't end up with hairballs (bunnies are not able to vomit and will die if a hairball gets stuck in them). They do not need to be bathed and only long haired breeds need to be trimmed. But they do need their toe nails trimmed regularly (about once every 2 months or so).



BUNNY BASICS



Temperature: Bunnies are very sensitive to heat and can easily die from heat stroke. They should not be in temperatures above 85 degrees, and at that high of a temp for only a short while.

Toys: Bunnies love toys! Wooden sticks, woven balls, all kinds of bunny appropriate things are available. Even toilet paper rolls can provide some fun!

