

What You Need To Know Before Adopting A Bunny:

Please consider the following:

1. Which adults in the family will be the primary caretakers?
2. Are you prepared for a possible 10-year+ commitment to this bunny?
3. Does everyone in your family want a bunny?
4. Are you prepared to provide any necessary vet visits?
5. Do you have an appropriate set up and supplies?
6. Is your home and/or yard "bunny-proofed"?
7. Do you have animals that could endanger the bunny? (Bunnies can die even when only frightened by a predator.)
8. Have you had a bunny before? Where is it now?
9. Will you be able to supervise any children around this bunny?
10. If you move, get married, have a baby, or if the kids lose interest, are you prepared to keep your bunny?

If you're adopting a bunny for a child please take into consideration that you are responsible for taking care of the bunny if the child loses interest. Volunteering and fostering are great options before committing.

- Bunnies can live 8 to 12 years and some live 15 to 16 years!
- Bunnies are considered high maintenance pets and require proper care and knowledge to be able to live long, healthy and happy lives.
- Bunnies are social animals and it is really important to keep them in pairs as they are happiest with a friend! It is best to have a spayed female living together with a neutered male. Some spayed females can get along but males usually do not.
- Bunnies do best living inside while having playtime outside of their living area along with supervised playtime outside in a bunny-proof setup/yard.
- Bunnies are very sensitive to heat, keeping them cool in the summer is important to prevent heat stroke.
- Like all animals bunnies have odor especially when not cleaned up after regularly.
- Bunnies have many similarities to cats, they are independent but love attention on their terms, they are curious, adventurous, smart, naughty, so on.
- Bunnies bones are very fragile and they can get hurt or killed easily. Children need to be supervised with bunnies and should not be allowed to pick them up. Letting them gently pet them and having the bunnies sit on their laps rather than picking up is best.
- Just like humans and other animals, bunnies all have different personalities. Some are shy and need more patience than others.
- Having a bunny savvy vet is important and sometimes hard to find! Bunnies are considered exotic and having a knowledgeable vet can be life saving!

- A bored bunny can be destructive. They need a lot of stimulation and exercise.

Bunnies make amazing pets when their owner is patient and knowledgeable. All bunnies can learn to love human affection. Some will even snuggle and lick their human to show affection.

What You Need:

HOUSING

- X pen, large dog crate or large hutch
- Litterbox
- Pellet bowl
- Heavy bottom water dish
- Chew toys (apple twigs, willow tunnels, hay cubes, cardboard boxes, etc.)
- Pet carrier

FOOD

- Limited pellets daily
- Fresh water
- Hay (most important part of diet!) (preferred orchard grass or timothy hay)
- Fresh veggies daily

GROOMING

- Brush
- Toenail clippers

SUPPLIES

- Litter (not cat litter or woodshavings) (preferred recycled paper bedding or DryDen bedding pellets)
- Pooper scooper
- Dustpan and handheld broom (for poop accidents)
- White vinegar (for urine accidents and disinfecting)

Getting supplies and the proper setup for bunnies costs about \$200 and up. Not including adoption fee and whether they need to be spayed or neutered. Feeding bunnies and litter expenses totals to about \$40 and up times two for your bonded pair! Emergency vet costs \$75 and up.

Bunnies are the 3rd most abandoned pet, please don't be a part of that! Do your research and talk to someone who is knowledgeable about bunnies and then decide if they are the right pet for you!

Find more helpful information on the House Rabbit Society website - rabbit.org