



How to Care for Your New Rabbit

We're so glad you've welcomed one of our rabbits into your home!

A full list of our recommended supplies can be found here:

👉 <https://fallentimbersfarm.com/recommended-supplies/>

Housing Your Rabbit

Rabbits can live either indoors or outdoors, depending on your setup and climate.

Indoor Housing:

There are two main types of indoor cages — wire-bottom cages with catch pans and solid-bottom cages.

- Wire-bottom cages are easier to keep clean.
- Solid-bottom cages can be more comfortable, but rabbits love to dig, so expect them to scatter bedding around.

Good bedding options include pine shavings or pellets, but note that some rabbits are allergic to pine. If that's the case, use recycled paper litter pellets instead. Avoid cedar shavings, as they can cause respiratory issues.

Adding a corner litter pan is highly recommended — rabbits, like cats, prefer to stay clean. Start litter training early, and most rabbits will naturally use their litter box, even returning to their cage when allowed out for playtime.

Outdoor Housing:

If your rabbit will live outside, choose a raised wire-bottom hutch. For safety, there should be either:

- A second layer of wire 2–4 inches below the floor, or
- Half of the floor made solid

This gives your rabbit a secure place to retreat if a dog or predator gets under the hutch. Some dogs can even tear through wire, so outdoor rabbits are safest inside a secure yard.

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Outdoor rabbits also need protection from wind and rain in winter, and plenty of shade and ventilation in summer. Rabbits overheat easily — frozen 2-liter bottles placed in their cage during hot days help them stay cool (many will lie right against them!).

Feeding Your Rabbit

Rabbits need two main types of food: pellets and hay.

- Pellets: Choose a plain rabbit pellet from a pet or feed store. We recommend Tractor Supply's brand, Oxbow, or Purina.

Adult Holland Lops eat no more than 1/2 cup per day — often less. They love to beg for food and can gain weight easily!

- Hay: Keep Timothy hay available at all times. You can use bagged hay from the pet store or baled hay used for horses or cattle. Hay is essential for digestion and helps control appetite.
- Alfalfa: Rich and nutritious, but introduce it slowly. We avoid feeding straight alfalfa before 3 months of age — it can cause serious diarrhea in babies. We use alfalfa/timothy hay cubes for our rabbits, and they love them.
- Fresh Foods: After 3 months of age, you can add small portions of fruits and vegetables. Favorites include carrots, apples, and bell peppers.

✗ Never feed broccoli (toxic), lettuce (can cause fatal diarrhea), or citrus fruits (too acidic).

Toys and Enrichment

Rabbits love to play and chew! Enrichment keeps them happy and prevents boredom.

You can use rabbit toys from pet stores or repurpose items like:

- Cat balls with bells
- Empty toilet paper rolls
- Clean aluminum cans

Wooden chew toys are also great for keeping teeth trimmed and healthy.

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Keeping More Than One Rabbit

Rabbits are naturally solitary. In the wild, they only come together to breed, and mothers separate from their kits after about a month.

We don't recommend housing two rabbits in the same cage — even bonded pairs can eventually fight and become stressed.

However, if your rabbits have free range of your home or a large space, multiple rabbits can coexist peacefully. Females usually do well in pairs or small groups. Males, however, should be neutered before being housed together to prevent fighting.

Bonding With Your Rabbit

Moving to a new home is stressful for any rabbit. When you bring your new bunny home, place them in their cage and let them settle for a full day.

Once they're eating and exploring, start gentle handling:

1. Sit with your rabbit in your lap for a few minutes.
2. Let them sniff your hands and get used to your voice and scent.
3. Offer a small treat (like a bell pepper or carrot piece) each time you take them out.

Handled daily, Holland Lops become remarkably affectionate — many will come running when they see you, beg for pets, and even roll over for belly rubs!

If You Can No Longer Keep Your Rabbit

Please contact us if you ever need to rehome your rabbit.

We'll always take back any of our babies, at any age, for any reason. ❤️

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