



Where to House Your Rabbit

Rabbits need a lot more space than you might think. Exercise is important for both their mental and physical health. They will need spaces to run to keep their weight under control and keep their digestive system running correctly.

Where's the only place for your rabbit(s) to live?

INDOORS! Rabbits are highly social and do best when they have plenty of interaction with family members. Outdoors, they also face the threat of attacks from other animals and inclement weather. You can create a safe space outdoors for them for supervised play, but they should live inside.

How big should my rabbit's enclosure be and what should be included?

When bringing your rabbit home, start off by putting the rabbit in a smaller than normal enclosure such as an X-pen or smaller place babygated off. The minimum recommended enclosure space for one rabbit is 8 square feet. Keep in mind this is the bare minimum. Bigger is always better! If you decide to keep your rabbit in an enclosure at all times, then you need to ensure you have a place for them to run and explore for at least 2-3 hours a day. Learn [more here](#).

Did you know that Rabbits can Free Roam in your house like a cat or dog?

Rabbits have a lot of personality, and love to explore. Many rabbit parents set up a whole room for rabbits to free roam or let them have access to the whole house. Wherever a rabbit is located, it must be properly bunny proofed. Some choose to put them in their enclosure while out of the house or at night, while others allow them to hop around all day. No matter what, you need to have a space for them to have on their own with all their basic needs. Baby gating an area or room is a great option for a bun. If the rabbit tries to jump the gate you can put up a cloth sheet to prevent the rabbit from being able to see the other side of the gate. You should start slow with smaller spaces and open up their space gradually as you learn more about each other. See [more information on that here](#).

Set ups must include the following at all times:

- A Litter Box
- Water Bowl (heavy so it's not easily flipped)
- Food Bowl (optional)
- Hay Rack or Hay in the Litter Box
- Hiding Places (at least one for each rabbit)
- Toys (wooden or cardboard for them to chew on)

Can I train my rabbit to use a litter box?

Yes! Rabbits are very clean by nature. Most rabbits will choose one corner of their cage as a bathroom. As soon as your rabbit's choice has become clear, move your newspaper lined litter box in that spot. Cover the bottom of the litter box with Carefresh or pelleted litter such as Yesterday's News. It is important never to use pine or cedar shaving as litter, as the fumes can make your rabbit sick. Clay cat litter is also inappropriate since this litter can cause respiratory or gastrointestinal problems.

When you first bring your rabbit(s) home, they will likely be stressed and not use your box. If they are going in the same spot (which is not where your box is) then move the box to that location. To help encourage them to use that box, you can pick up their poop pellets and put them in the box throughout the day. Until they get the hang of it, it's a good idea to keep them enclosed until they have more confidence on where to go. If they pee outside, you can soak up the pee in a paper towel and put the scent in the box too. Until they are used to it, don't deep clean the litter box with cleaning agents to remove the full scent.

Rabbits also go where they eat, so it's a good idea to keep it all near the litter box. Some people choose to have hay in their litter box while others choose to put it in a hay rack or bag above the box to keep the hay cleaner. Give their food pellets and veges in or near the litter box especially as you're training. Rabbits are always 100% with their litter box, and might still have the occasional poop outside the box, but they are round pellets and easy to pick up/clean.

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