



# RABBIT CARE SHEET

Congratulations on an excellent addition to your family. With the proper care and attention your new rabbit will make a beautiful pet.

## Food Guide for Baby Rabbit

Rabbits need to have access to fresh food and water **EVERY DAY**. Old vegetable and food scraps should be removed also. Rabbits require both pellet form food to wear down their continuously growing teeth and a chaff form for roughage. Rabbit Meal mixes are a good source of roughage along with a good supply of grass hay/straw. Hay/straw can also be used for bedding.

Your baby rabbit has been eating a Rabbit **Specific** Pellet Food - (Recommend VETAFARM & BARASTOCK rabbit pellets) Fresh Grass (**mowed grass will make them sick**), Hay, Apple, Carrot, Kale, Celery and Celery leaves. You can give your baby a variety of fruit & vegetables in small amounts, along with hay, pellets and grass. For extra roughage, you may also want to introduce a Rabbit Meal Mix. As your baby rabbit gets older, you can introduce small amounts of any of the below safe foods to his/her diet. Do not feed lettuce or cabbage. Young rabbits can suffer from tummy upsets when fed a lot of grass or greens etc. so greens should be introduced gradually.

**ALWAYS MAKE SURE YOUR RABBIT HAS FRESH WATER AVAILABLE**

## Food Safe for Rabbits

Apples	Carrots	Kale	Pears	Celery
Peach	Orange	Pineapple	Cherries	Beans
Blueberries	Papaya	Grapes	Parsnip	Peas
Parsley	Raspberries	Mango	Melon	Tomatoes
Strawberries				

## Plants Harmful to Rabbits

Acorns	Apple Seeds	Aloe	Almonds	Azalea
Asparagus Fern	Carnations	Clematis	Daffodil Bulbs	Eucalyptus
Fruit Pits	Juniper	Laurel Lupine	Milkweed	Mistletoe
Nutmeg	Marigold	Oak	Poppy	Lily of the Valley
Fruit Seeds	Geranium	Hemlock	Hyacinth Bulbs	Impatiens
Iris	Ivy	Jasmine	Peony	Philodendron
Poinsettia	Sweet Potato	Tulip Bulbs	Tansy	Rhubarb Leaves
Parsnip plant	Tomato Leaves	Violet	Yew	

For further details, you can search online.

## **General Care**

\*Hutch size - **Minimum size** 1m x 0.5m

\*Hutches need to be cleaned at least once a week to prevent bacteria build up.

\*Rabbits are social animals and are better kept in pairs or groups (desexing is recommended), although rabbits kept by themselves will bond with you and your family more and can sometimes become better pets.

\*Make sure your rabbit has access to cool areas and shade on the hot days. You can try freezing a water bottle and put it in with the rabbit on a hot day. During Winter, make sure your rabbit is kept as well out of the cold weather elements as possible.

\*Rabbits need protection from foxes, cats, dogs etc. so make sure they are kept secure.

\*If you intend to keep your rabbit indoors, do not leave he/she out of their hutch unsupervised. Rabbits are attracted to electrical cords, etc.

\*As Rabbits teeth constantly grow, wooden gnaw toys are great to help with the prevention of overgrown teeth. Mineral treats are also used for this purpose. Never give your rabbit treated pine wood or other chemically treated woods to chew as these can kill them.

\*You can cover hutches with flywire or shade cloth to help protect your rabbit from flies, fleas and mosquitoes and as there is no vaccination, this is the only way to help prevent Myxomatosis. Vaccines are available against the Calicivirus but can only offer some protection from the disease. Vaccinating rabbits kept near wild populations is recommended.

\*Rabbits should be **wormed every 3 months**, we recommend the Aristopet Small Animal Wormer drops.

\*Children should always be supervised when handling the rabbit/s; they are not toys and need to be **gently** handled.

## **Litter Training**

When you first put your bunny in their new home, they will choose a corner for their toilet. Scoop up the soiled material and place it in a litter tray. Leave the litter tray in their chosen spot and they should keep using it. Later you will be able to move the tray elsewhere and he/she will keep using it.

## **Litters To Avoid If Litter Training**

Certain types of litter are harmful to Rabbits including clay litter, clumping litter, pine or cedar shavings and corn cob litter. We recommend a non-toxic pellet litter such as Heaven Scent. Apart from it being organic, it has extended odour control, is Bio-Degradable and Compostable.

**Wormed:**

**Next Due:**