

VetSmiths

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RABBITS

Accommodation - indoors

It's become increasingly popular in the UK to have rabbits and keep them indoors. This can be such fun and extremely rewarding, as your furry friends really do become a part of the family and their personalities shine. Yes, they really do have their own individual personalities.

It's important though, that if you do have your heart set on an indoor set up, there's lots of things to consider.

The first thing to mention is that rabbits can be VERY destructive. They're natural diggers and chewers and no amount of training will stop this behaviour – it's their instincts!

If you're lucky enough to have a spare bedroom, designated to your buns, this can be a great choice. You would need to ensure that all wires and cables are trunked with heavy duty plastic to avoid chewing – bunnies love wires! It's like spicy hay to them!!

Choose your flooring wisely. A deep pile luxurious carpet would most likely become a playground for your pet rabbit to dig at, so a lino type flooring, with washable rugs and blankets is the best option. These can then be easily swept, hoovered and washed to keep everything hygienic.

If you're planning on allocating a section of a room, or you prefer them to be enclosed in one area, then using an x-pen type of set up is ideal. These can be bought online but it's important to ensure that the recommended guidelines of how much space a rabbit needs is kept. Don't forget, **the minimum requirements for housing a pair of average size rabbits, measures 3m x 2m x 1m.**

Rabbits are very easily litter trained. A great tip, is that rabbits like to eat and toilet at the same time, so if you've got a good size litter tray lined with newspaper (or the litter of your choice) filled with good quality Timothy Hay this will encourage your bunny to be potty trained in no time at all.

As with an outdoor set up, your indoor set up should include hidey houses, tunnels, dig boxes and lots of toys to play with - bunnies are intelligent and love to have mental stimulation.

Please note: the above information is a general guide and shouldn't be used instead of veterinary medical advice or diagnosis. If you are ever concerned about your pet, you should seek immediate advice from your vet.

