

Rabbit Care

Hollands and other dwarf breeds can live comfortably in a cage 18" x 24" x 14" high. Breeding does will do better with a cage that is 24" x 24". Fresh water and grass/timothy hay should be available at all times. Does nursing and Hollands in the summertime consume more water. Does with kits and kits should be able to free-feed, meaning eat as much as they want, as long as they aren't getting fat. As they get older, 1/3 to 1/2 cup of food per day is a good amount for Hollands. Some need more than others, so if your rabbit seems to get fat, cut back a bit. If they are losing weight or feeling scrawny, they may need more.

Treats such as carrots and from a pet store should be feed sparingly. Fresh food should never be feed to any rabbit under the age of five months as their digestive system may not be fully developed. The cage should never have a bad odor. If it does, it needs to be cleaned. The cage should never get to that point though, as rabbits are normally quite clean animals. Both bucks and does make equally good pets, it just depends on the rabbit's particular personality. Adult bucks who aren't neutered have a tendency to spray urine, and does who aren't spayed can become territorial when in their cage. But, it just depends on the individual rabbit. It is a good idea to get all pets spayed or neutered.

I have found the easiest cages to use are the type with a pull-out tray underneath that pine shavings can be put in for absorbance. They are the easiest to clean. A 32 oz water bottle is a decent size. A food dish is best if it is either a heavy crock or if it clips to the side of the cage so it cannot be tipped over. Rabbits are easy to care for, they do not require any shots like a dog or cat nor do they need regular veterinarian visits. Should one ever be needed, it is best to find a vet who deals with "exotics" as usually they are the ones who know rabbits. Rabbits can be easily left for a 3-day weekend without worrying about a "pet-sitter" as long as the cage is clean and they have ample food and water. Overall, rabbits are a very low-maintenance pet that do not need a lot of space making them an ideal first pet for a child and an excellent choice for people in small homes or apartments.