



**COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**EXTENSION**



# Rabbit

Project levels are designed for members 8-18 years old.

## Starting Out - Beginner

Inspiring youth to:

- Learn about rabbits
- Identify the parts of a rabbit
- Identify breeds of rabbits
- Purchase, feed and care for rabbits
- Learn how to evaluate different rabbit breeds
- Do a demonstration about rabbits
- Learn how to keep records
- Learn how to assume responsibility

## Learning More - Intermediate

Inspiring youth to:

- Learn about nutritional requirements for rabbits
- Investigate different rabbit breeds
- Learn how to select the type or rabbit project
- Learn about goal setting
- Identify common rabbit diseases
- Exhibit your rabbit at the county fair
- Develop sportsmanship and public speaking skills

## Exploring Depth - Advanced

Inspiring youth to:

- Learn how to deal with current issues related to raising rabbits
- Gain leadership skills by helping other learn about rabbits
- Explore career opportunities in the rabbit industry
- Build lifelong friendships

## Projects Available

- Breeding Rabbit
- Market Rabbit
- Companion Rabbit

Colorado State University, U.S Department of Agriculture and Colorado counties cooperating. To simplify technical terminology, trade names or products and equipment occasionally will be used. No endorsement of product names is intended nor is criticism implied of products not mentioned.

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# Rabbit

## Tips:

- Rabbits should have an all-wire cage and should be at least 2' wide by 18" high by 2' long. Rabbits need a sitting board 6-8" square or larger to prevent sore hocks and feet.
- Outside cages need a shady roof and protection from rain, wind, drafts, dampness, and direct sun during the hot summer months.
- To cool a rabbit, put a gallon jug of frozen water in the cage or put long wet towels on the sides of the cage.
- Rabbits need plenty of fresh, clean ice-free water each day.
- Clean the water bottle every few days with a mild solution or warm soapy water.
- A doe and her litter will drink about a gallon of water a day.
- Clean the cage regularly by removing all droppings from the cage every day.
- At least once a month, clean, and disinfect the cage and tray.
- Keep the area around the pen clean and neat.
- Keep other pets and rodents away.
- Do not handle pregnant females too much and keep males away.
- Always check for parasites such as lice and fleas.



## Resources:

- Exhibit & Judging Requirements
- Record Books
- Manual Information

Located at: [Colorado4h.org](http://Colorado4h.org)



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**Beyond  
Ready**

# Rabbit Industry Careers



### Groomer

Provide grooming and salon services for owners of rabbits



### Retail

Provide sales of products at different retail levels for rabbit owners



### Veterinarian

Provide veterinary health services to rabbits



### Rabbit Shows

Be a professional fitter or shower at rabbit shows; learn to be a judge or volunteer at rabbit shows



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### **Degrees/Certifications:**

Animal Science  
Animal or Human Behavioral Health  
Food Safety  
Marketing or Journalism  
Veterinary Medicine  
Zoology



### Processing Plant

Own or work at facilities that provide meat processing services for rabbit meat



### Journalist

Provide informational articles and resources for those involved in the rabbit industry



### Breeder or Association Staff

Provide breeding services and/or information on rabbits for rabbit owners



### Behavioral Health

Work with behavioral health providers to utilize rabbits in nursing homes, veterans, etc.