



**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



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



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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.