







## Are You a Rabbit Person?












**Are you the right kind of person to live with a rabbit?  
Rabbits make wonderful companions for the right people.**

-  Are you patient?
-  Have a sense of humor?
-  Do you enjoy watching the movements and learning the language of another species?
-  Does your schedule include plenty of time at home?
-  Are you comfortable spending a lot of time on the floor?
-  Are you not overly fussy with your furniture?









**Gunther and Sig**

### Basic Facts

-  Domestic rabbits are intelligent, social animals in need of mental stimulation, toys, exercise, environmental activity, and social interaction.
-  Rabbits can be litterbox trained
-  Their lifespan can be 7-14 years
-  Rabbits are inquisitive, sociable animals.
-  They make wonderful indoor companions.
-  Rabbits can purr when contented – thump or growl when upset
-  Like cats and dogs, rabbits need to be spayed or neutered to improve health and behavior.
-  Most rabbits do not like to be held. They prefer to sit beside you and will come over to see what you're doing.
-  Rabbits like to play with toys, such as cardboard boxes, wire cat balls, hard plastic baby keys, and untreated willow baskets.
-  Rabbits need to have things of their own to chew on (or they might nibble on your stuff).
-  Rabbits need to be protected from predators, poisons, temperature extremes, electrical cords, and rough handling.

The House Rabbit Society has many wonderful bunnies! Many are rescued from euthanasia at the animal shelters during peak times. Contact your local House Rabbit Society Chapter [WWW.therabbitresource.org](http://WWW.therabbitresource.org) to find out if you are the right person to provide a special home for a special rabbit. Want to read more first? The National HRS web page is [www.rabbit.org](http://www.rabbit.org)

### Read this before you adopt

-  Rabbits are very special animals. They are bright, interesting, inquisitive, playful--a joy to watch, to touch, and to be with.
-  If you leave your rabbit alone in a cage or outside hutch, then you are missing the best part of knowing your rabbit.
-  Isolated rabbits become bored, withdrawn, lonely and depressed. Rabbits are intelligent, highly social animals who need and respond to love and affection just like cats and dogs and they can become wonderful companion animals when given the chance to interact with their human families.
-  Contrary to Easter time hype, rabbits are rarely a good companion animal for a small child. The natural exuberance and high decibel level of even the gentlest toddler is simply too stressful for sensitive rabbits. Rabbits' hearing and sensitivity to environmental stimuli is much greater than ours, and stress-related illness caused by sensory overload is a common problem for them.
-  Young children want a companion they can hold and cuddle; rabbits need someone who understands that they are ground-loving creatures.
-  Getting to know your rabbit's individual personality takes time and patience and remember that the first rule in communicating with a rabbit is to get down on the floor. Spend time getting to know him where he is comfortable, and remember to love your rabbit for whoever he or she is. Your companion rabbit will enrich your life in his or her own special way.

**See next page (posted underneath)**

for pictures and information about some rabbits currently available for adoption

