



Rabbit and Guinea Pig Feeding Guide

Feeding your rabbit and guinea pig the right foods is important for a range of things including healthy teeth and gastrointestinal health. Many of the problems we see in rabbits and guinea pigs are caused by feeding a poor diet, for this reason it is crucial that you ensure your pet is being fed appropriately.



What does a good quality diet include?

A good rabbit and guinea pig diet will be high in fiber with moderate protein levels as well as provide some fats, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals. This can be achieved by providing your rabbit with ad lib good quality grass or grass hay (such as oaten or timothy hay). This should make up 70-80% of your rabbits' diet.

A small amount of a good pellet mix (around a tablespoon per day) can also be fed and a range of fresh leafy green vegetables and herbs should make up the rest of the diet. Fresh vegetables and herbs that are appropriate to feed include but are not limited to Asian greens, watercress, cabbage, broccoli, carrot tops, celery leaves, silver beat, parsley, mint and basil. Fruits should be used as treat items only.



What food should never be fed to a rabbit or guinea pig?

Foods you should never feed your rabbit include but are not limited to iceberg lettuce, onion, garlic, potato, meat, tomato plants, rhubarb and jalapenos.





Fresh water

It is important that your pet rabbit has clean fresh water on offer at all times. This can be provided easily with a dripper bottle attached to the cage or a heavy bowl (so that they cannot knock it over). Many rabbits actually prefer bowls to drink from rather than dripper bottles.

Listed here is a general guide as to what to feed your pet, for more specific information and a tailored dietary plan for your pet please get in touch with us.

| EVERYDAY | TREATS | NEVER |
|--|--|---|
| Fresh hay and/or grass* | Fresh Fruit** – only one small slice | Seeds, bread, oats, high grain mixes or high starch foods |
| Pellets – as a general rule 1 tablespoon per animal per day | Lucerne Hay – small handful | Iceberg Lettuce, Potatoes, Onions, Garlic, Corn Kernels |
| Green leafy vegetables (as well as those high in vitamin C for Guinea Pigs***) and herbs | Hibiscus Flowers, Fennel, Carrots, Almonds (1-2), Sultanas (up to 5), Cranberries (up to 5) and rose petals (fresh or dried) | |
| | Commercially available healthy treats | |

Asterix Reference Guide

* Oaten Hay, Timothy Hay, Orchard Grass, Botanical Hay – 80% of the animal's diet. Lucerne hay is also okay for growing animals. A litter tray sized amount of fresh hay per rabbit and per 2 guinea pigs should be provided per day.

** Such as Apple, Banana, Pear, Strawberries

*** Such as Parsley, Red Capsicum, Kale, Broccoli

Feel free to get in touch with us for more information on feeding or transitioning your rabbit or guinea pig onto an optimal and nutritious diet.

