

Biting the hand that feeds...

ASSISI



Aggressive rabbits explained.

There are a number of different causes for aggression in pet rabbits. If a rabbit is aggressive it is practically shouting out "I am not happy!" So it is important we listen to them. To help our rabbits we must first understand why they are behaving in that way then try to change how we care for them and the environment which we provide.

Hormones

Hormones are terrible things! They can turn the sweetest of baby rabbits into a raging demon bunny at just 5 months old. Not all rabbits will become aggressive; some may just spray urine at you or try to hump your leg. Either way it is vital that they are neutered. Neutering will help calm the stress and anxiety that raging hormones cause leaving the rabbit much more calm, relaxed and able to enjoy your company.

Inadequate housing

Can you imagine living in a tiny room with no space to move around and being unable to interact with your own kind? Rabbits aren't too keen on living like this either. A lack of space and an environment that is uninteresting will cause stress, anxiety and frustration which manifest as aggression. These are the rabbits that will attack you if you put your hand into the hutch. Providing a much larger hutch and a run that they can access freely along with tunnels, places to hide and also a dig box will settle even the most cage aggressive rabbit. Never clean the hutch out while the rabbit is inside, respect their personal space. Or, if you are able to, house the rabbit in a converted shed for the ultimate happy bunny home!

Illness

Have you noticed a sudden change in behaviour? Your once friendly rabbit has turned aggressive overnight? This rabbit could be unwell and in pain. Your first stop should be the Vet. Any sudden change in behaviour or habits should be noted and a veterinary appointment made to rule out a physical problem or the onset of an illness.

028 9181 2622

www.assisi-ni.org

info@assisi-ni.org