

# Rabbit and Guinea Pig Adoption Guidelines



## Guidelines for rabbit and guinea pig housing:

### Minimum requirements:

#### Rabbits (Pair): Hutch & Run or Shed & Run

- Hutch – Double storey living – 6ft and each storey to be 2ft (D) x 2ft (H).
- Run – 8ft (L) x 4ft (W) x 2ft (H) – Can be attached or unattached to hutch/shed.
- Shed – 6ft (L) x 4ft (W)

#### Indoor rabbits (Pair):

- 6ft (L) x 4ft (W) pen with access to bunny safe room for at least 4 hours exercise.
- Own Room
- Free-range around fully bunny-proofed home.

#### Guinea Pigs (Pair) Indoors October – April:

- Indoor cage – 120cm (L)
- C&C Cage – 2x4 grid preferably with upper level

#### Outdoors:

- Hutch – 4ft (L) x 2ft (D) x 2ft (H) single storey
- Run – 6ft (L) x 4ft (W)
- Shed – 4ft (L) x 4ft(W)

The above are the minimum requirements for rabbit and guinea pig housing. Anything smaller will not be deemed suitable. However, if you have already purchased a hutch or cage we will endeavour to help you amend your housing so that it meets our requirements.

These requirements are set with guidance from the Animal Welfare Act NI (2011) and also the Rabbit Welfare Association and Fund.

Please don't hesitate to ask us questions about what type of housing will suit you best. We can guide you through the whole process so that you don't spend any more money than you have to, but still end up with good quality, long-lasting housing for your rabbits or guinea pigs.

If you are taking on a single rabbit or guinea pig to be mixed with your own existing pet, please discuss separate housing requirements. Temporary housing and an exercise area will be required for the new rabbit or guinea pig until they are a bonded pair and are able to live together in housing that meets to above requirements.

# Suggestion List

	Items Required	Got it...?
<b>Housing</b>	Hutch Run Shed Indoor Cage/Pen	
<b>Bowls/Bottles</b>	1 Per Rabbit for pellets 1 large ceramic dish for water 1 pellet dish for Guinea Pigs 2-3 water bottles (handy to have spare)	
<b>Food</b>	Science Selective Adult Rabbit Science Selective Guinea Pig (Discuss Alternatives) Critical Care (emergency food for syringe feeding)	
<b>Vegetables</b>	Greens (spring/savoy/kale/herbs) - Rabbits/G.Pigs Pepper, Carrot. Apple. Baby Corn, Cucumber, Green Beans, Spinach - G.Pigs	
<b>Hay</b>	Meadow Hay - soft & dust free Readigrass - dried grass Herbal Hay Mixes	
<b>Bedding</b>	Low dust wood shavings Rapid Bed Soft Hay/Straw Shredded paper/Newspaper (staple free) Fleece Blankets - G.Pigs/Indoor Rabbits	
<b>Treats</b>	Dried vegetables/herbs Fresh/dried fruit in small quantities	
<b>Toys/Accessories</b>	Hay Stations      Tunnels      Hides/Pigloos CardboardBoxes      Nibble sticks      Puzzle Toys Grooming Brushes/Nail Clippers	
Wooden Hutches/Runs/Sheds -	<a href="http://www.shedsni.com">www.shedsni.com</a> (Garden Leisure NI - Hogstown Road, Donaghadee)	
Indoor Cage/Guinea Pig Cage -	<a href="http://www.zooplus.co.uk">www.zooplus.co.uk</a> <a href="http://www.petplanet.co.uk">www.petplanet.co.uk</a> Jollyes Pet Superstore (Bangor) Pets at Home (Bangor, Belfast, Lisburn, N'Abbey)	
C&C Guinea Pig Cage -	<a href="http://www.cavycages.co.uk">www.cavycages.co.uk</a> <a href="http://www.amazon.co.uk">www.amazon.co.uk</a>	
Cage Accessories/Treats/Food -	<a href="http://www.manorpethousing.co.uk">www.manorpethousing.co.uk</a> <a href="http://www.barksandbunnies.co.uk">www.barksandbunnies.co.uk</a> <a href="http://www.nibbleandgnaw.co.uk">www.nibbleandgnaw.co.uk</a> <a href="http://www.amazon.co.uk">www.amazon.co.uk</a> Jollyes Pet Superstore (Bangor) Pets at Home (Bangor, Belfast, Lisburn, N'Abbey)	