

Rabbits and Cats

Rabbits and Cats can Peacefully Co-exist!

Exercise caution during introductions. If your cat is aggressive or your rabbit is scared, stop the interaction. Do not begin introductions until both animals are feeling confident and comfortable in their environment.



Set Up For Success

- Start with your rabbit in a large cage with bars too small for your cat to reach in. Make sure your rabbit has room to run around and stand up so your cat can become accustomed to your rabbit's movements. Provide a cardboard box inside the habitat so your rabbit has a safe place to retreat.
- When both are comfortable with each other's movements and smells (this can take days, weeks, or even months), move forward with your introductions.
- Hold your cat on your lap and let your rabbit investigate at their own pace. Continue short sessions until everyone is feeling comfortable and peaceful together. Provide a safe place to retreat for each animal. A cat tree for your cat and a wooden hide box for your rabbit works great.



Once They Are Friends:

- Don't be surprised if your rabbit is the dominant personality in the relationship. Rabbits can be bossy and territorial, sometimes causing a wary, defensive reaction from your cat. Ideally, your cat will leave if your rabbit is being too bossy but watch for defensive swipes. Consider trimming claws monthly or using claw covers.
- If a bite or scratch happens, be sure to monitor the wound very closely. Injuries from cats get infected easily and infections are difficult to treat in rabbits. A vet visit is in order if the skin around the injury is puffy, pink or red, or looks irritated.



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