



Rabbit Advocates Adoption Contract



I, _____, am hereby adopting foster rabbit(s) _____ Shelter Exchange ID Number(s): _____ from Rabbit Advocates. If in the future for any reason I am unable to continue caring for this rabbit, I will contact his/her previous Foster Care Provider and/or Rabbit Advocates either to surrender to their care, or to receive assistance in finding a new home. I will not, under any circumstances, release this rabbit into the outdoors. My initials on each line below is evidence that I have read and understand that line item.

I agree to provide:

- _____ *safe and secure **indoor** housing in either an enclosure, preferably a pen, large enough for the rabbit to stand, stretch out and run around, or free-range living in rabbit-proofed areas of my home.
- _____ *a clean, sanitary living space.
- _____ *access to at least one large litter pan with a safe absorbent layer (no wood shavings or clay cat litter) under a layer of hay sufficient to prevent their feet from touching soiled litter.
- _____ *safety from other pets in the home and necessary supervision for interactions.
- _____ *a healthy, balanced diet including but not necessarily limited to hay and a measured amount of pellets as is appropriate based on age, weight, & health.
- _____ *constant access to clean water and unlimited hay.
- _____ *humane treatment & safe handling of the rabbit by myself or anyone else coming in contact with them.
- _____ *proper nail trimming and grooming as is needed.
- _____ *daily exercise outside of their enclosure.
- _____ *frequent attention and socialization.
- _____ *veterinary care by a rabbit-knowledgeable veterinarian whenever needed.

I understand that:

- _____ *It is natural behavior for rabbits to chew and dig, and as a result I may need to protect parts of my home to prevent both damage to personal belongings and electrocution caused by wire-chewing.
- _____ *Rabbits are prey animals and therefore need protection and may be more fearful than other pets. I must strive to keep their living area as quiet and peaceful as is reasonably possible.
- _____ *Rabbits are fragile and can be difficult to hold. Because of this I will closely monitor any interactions this rabbit may have with children or adults who are not knowledgeable about the proper handling of rabbits. I will strive to learn proper holding and handling techniques and continue learning about proper care in general.
- _____ *The rabbit I am adopting has been spayed or neutered and I am not adopting with intent to breed.
- _____ *Rabbits do not respond to discipline.
- _____ *Rabbits are sentient beings with feelings and needs extending beyond survival requirements and I will therefore strive to enrich their life physically, mentally and emotionally.
- _____ *Rabbit Advocates does not guarantee the health of any rabbit adopted from our organization.
- _____ *Behavioral changes may occur after leaving foster care and that patience and an adjustment period should be expected.
- _____ *Any animal's behavior may be unpredictable.
- _____ *Domesticated rabbits are safest indoors, due to risks including predators, parasites, escape, and weather changes. If I choose to allow outdoor time for my rabbit they must be kept safe, under direct supervision, and the enclosure must be impervious to escape.
- _____ *Adopting a rabbit is a serious commitment to care for the rabbit for the rest of their life. The average lifespan of a domesticated rabbit is 10-12 years. I understand that I must continue to care for this rabbit to the best of my ability despite moving, relationship changes, or behavioral difficulties that may arise.

I agree to pay the adoption fee of \$ _____ to Rabbit Advocates.

I hereby release Rabbit Advocates, a non-profit organization, its volunteers, officers, and directors, from all liability arising from any injuries, including but not limited to bites and scratches, from the rabbit(s) I am adopting, as well as any damages to my property, other animals, or any other human family member or friends. I hereby release Rabbit Advocates from any loss, damage, liability, claims, cost or expense including legal fees incurred as a result of this adoption.

I attest that I am at least 18 year of age, have carefully read, understand, and agree with the content of this document and sign this document voluntarily.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Printed Name: _____

Adopter Contact Information: _____

Foster Care Provider & Contact Information: _____

To learn more about how to care for your new rabbit, visit our website: www.rabbitadvocates.org