



BUNNY WORLD FOUNDATION ADOPTION APPLICATION

- 1) Name of applicant:
- 2) Street address:
- 3) City: Zip:
- 4) Phone: Email:
- 5) Why are you interested in adopting a rabbit or rabbits? How long have you been looking for a rabbit? Are you looking for a particular type of rabbit?
- 6) Have you had rabbits in the past? If yes, how many, what sex and where were the rabbits kept? What happened to those rabbits?
- 7) Do you have a rabbit now? How many? What are their names and ages? Are they spayed/neutered? Do they have any medical conditions?

- 8) Is this bunny intended to be a companion for another family rabbit? If former, please describe your rabbit's diet.

- 9) What other animals have you had in the past? What happened to them?

- 10) Do you plan on getting any other animals? If yes, what kind?

- 11) How many children live in your household? What are their ages? How many adults live in your household?

- 12) Have you done any research on what it takes to care for a rabbit? If yes, where?

- 13) Have you contacted other rabbit rescue groups or shelters? If so, which ones?

- 14) Does any member of your family have any allergies to animals or hay?

- 15) Which member of your household will be the primary caregiver for the rabbits?

- 16) Do you own your own house or rent an apartment? How long? If you rent, please provide your landlord's name and phone number? How long have you lived in your home?

- 17) Is your home bunny-proofed? (Electric cords are covered, there are no chemicals on the floors, toxic plants have been removed from the rabbit's living and play areas, etc.)

18) Are you aware that rabbits like to chew and may want to chew the carpet or furniture? What will you do if they do this? Is there any behavior you cannot accept in a rabbit?

19) What type of enclosure are you planning to use for the rabbits and where will they live?

20) Describe the ways you plan to allow your rabbits to exercise, number of hours, space, etc.

21) If you go away on vacation, who will take care of the rabbits?

22) What is your veterinarian's name?

23) Do you currently have any other pets? Please describe type, age, sex, and whether spayed or neutered (include all animals in household including roommate's pets). How long have you had these pets? Where are other pets kept during the day and where at night?

24) What would you do if/when your rabbit(s) require extensive veterinary care (e.g., surgery) costing in excess of \$1000 at one time or over several years?

25) What would you do with the rabbits in the following situations?

- your apartment no longer allows pets
- your (new) roommate is allergic to rabbits
- your (new) significant other is allergic to rabbits
- you and your significant other separate

26) Do we have permission to visit your home?

27) Rabbits are much happier living in pairs or threesomes; would you consider adopting more than one?

28) Where will the rabbit(s) live? Estimate the amount of time the rabbit will be indoors, outdoors and garage? How many hours per day will the rabbit be left alone?

29) What is your position on euthanasia?

30) Under what circumstances would you not be able to keep the rabbit?

31) How did you hear about Bunny World Foundation?

32) Are you interested in doing volunteer work or fostering a bunny? If you are not able to adopt, are you interested in sponsoring one bunny at least to be neutered or spayed?

33) Additional Comments: _____

Note: Please e-mail this form to info@bunnyworldfoundation.org and also call us at (310) 528-4582 to let us know that you submitted the application.

Thank you for your interest in adopting a Lucky Bunny!



BWF ADOPTION INFORMATION

The following information is requested so that we can assist you in the selection of a house rabbit companion. This application and consultation with a BWF adoption counselor is designed to help us determine if the adoption is in the rabbit's best interest and to assist you in finding the rabbit/s most compatible with your lifestyle. Rabbits are highly social—they are happiest and thrive when living with other rabbits as an integrated part of their families' lives and surroundings. Therefore rabbits are housed **inside only** and require 5 to 8 hours of playtime daily. In order to be considered as an adopter you must:

- Be able and willing to provide an indoor, loving, safe and peaceful environment for your rabbits.
- Be financially stable and willing to provide all necessary medical care.
- Be committed to the health and welfare of the rabbit for his/her lifetime (an average of 8-10 years) regardless of lifestyle changes such as divorce, moving, etc.
- Be aware that we DO NOT adopt rabbits to children—all members of the household should visit the prospective rabbit and apply for adoption.
- Be aware that we DO NOT place rabbits in a home with an un-neutered or un-spayed rabbit.
- Be willing to agree to a home visit and consultation by one of our adoption counselors prior to the adoption.
- Agree to an adoption fee which is used to pay for our rabbits' spay/neuter and medical care OR commit in writing to spay/neuter yourself.
- Be willing to agree to a follow-up home visit within 1-2 months of the adoption date.
- Agree to our Adoption Policies.

Thank you for wanting to give a rabbit a safe and loving home. Our primary goal at BWF is education—the purpose of the initial visit is to help facilitate a good match between a bunny and your family’s needs and comfort levels. Please complete the application and send via email to: info@bunnyworldfoundation.org
Attention: Adoptions.

ADOPTION POLICIES

- 1) **Primary Caregiver.** When a rabbit is adopted from BWF, the primary caregiver must be a responsible adult. The rabbit should be treated as an integral part of the family, i.e., no group ownership (such as a classroom pet). WE DO NOT adopt rabbits as pets for children. The rabbit must be wanted by the entire family.
- 2) **Indoor Housing.** Adopters of Bunny World Foundation rabbits must understand that our rabbits are to live as household companions. This means that they must have their primary living space indoors, and must spend every night indoors. During the daytime, adopters can allow their rabbits outdoor daytime exercise. If this is the case, the rabbit must be provided with an area with secure fencing, and adequate supervision. Fosterers may require additional safety precautions appropriate to their locale.
- 3) **Social Requirements.** If the rabbit is going to be alone (i.e. without the company of people, a cat or other household pets) for the majority of the time, then we recommend that the adopter adopt a second rabbit as a companion to the first.
- 4) **Neutering.** Sexually immature rabbits of mixed sexes can be adopted together as long as the adopter agrees to separate them when the males are 3 ½ months old and to neuter them as soon as the testicles have descended (usually around 4 months). Except for medical reasons, females are to be spayed within 30 days of reaching 6 months old. These same requirements exist even when an adopter has only adopted a single immature rabbit. Even when the rabbit will live alone, spaying and neutering after sexual maturity is still required.
- 5) **Returns:** If there are such problems with the adopted rabbit that the adopter needs to return the rabbit, we ask that you give the fosterer some advance notice. Some common sense and courtesy is expected. Once an animal is adopted from Bunny World Foundation, the space vacated is usually filled within a day. A return requires two preparations: a space must be opened by a new adoption, and another rabbit must be “bumped” from the rescue list at the animal shelter. Nevertheless, all rabbits adopted from this foster home must be returned to this foster home in case of insurmountable problems.
- 6) **Exchange:** Bunny World Foundation does not exchange animals. Exceptions may be made when:
 - The fosterer and adopter are working together on making a match between an adoptee and a pre-residing rabbit AND
 - In the fosterer’s judgment, a different match would be less stressful to the animals.

ADOPTING A SECOND RABBIT FROM BWF

The biggest advantage to getting a second rabbit is emotional support for your first rabbit when you're not around. Once you have seen multiple rabbits snuggling and kissing, you will never want to have only one rabbit again. Rabbits that travel, board, or visit the vet together are less stressed than single rabbits that experience these events.

Because we can't assume any two rabbits will get along with each other, strategy is used for second rabbit adoptions. This strategy is based on the assumption that YES, there is a rabbit your rabbit will like, but we can't always predict with certainty which rabbit it will be. Because it is the nature of rabbits to like or dislike passionately, rabbit matchmaking is something of an art. At BWF, match-making is our specialty. Below is a description of the process we use.

Tell us about your rabbit's personality, history, and habits, and communicate details about your home. If your rabbit is not yet spayed or neutered, this must happen next. Tell us what kind of rabbit you were hoping to adopt, keeping in mind that your rabbit will have a final say. We know our rescued buns very well, which helps to ensure a good match for all.

We will set up a time for you to bring your rabbit to meet two or more rabbits who have been selected by us in consultation with you. At least two candidates are considered, because in spite of our best intentions, one rabbit may reject the other. Body language of the rabbits will be interpreted by the staff facilitating the match, and can vary from indifference to excitement. Based on the rabbit's reactions, the adopter's preference, and the matchmaker's assessment of the match, the date can move on to bonding. Bonding is usually a period of one week with the rabbits together under supervision in neutral territory. Reports are made to the caretaker on the rabbit's progress. If negative behavior occurs, a different match is considered. We don't want either rabbit hurt, or stressed. We will try different combinations of rabbits until the chemistry is perfect.

The honeymoon begins when positive, trusting behavior is seen. The two bunnies can now go home. The adopter is instructed to keep the rabbits in a small, neutral, confined area, such as a spare room or hallway, for one week. BWF staff and the adopter keep in contact. If all goes well during this transition, number one bunny can go back to her routine, sharing everything with her new friend.

If you would like to hear more about adopting a second or third (or fourth, or fifth....) rabbit from BWF, please call us at (310) 528-4582 or email us at info@bunnyworldfoundation.org.