

43 Rabbit Breeds to Keep as Pets

By Jackie Brown Updated on 07/11/24

Profile of a medium hair grey and white rabbit

Maria Jeffs / EyeEm / Getty Images

There are many different breeds of rabbits, all with different colors, sizes, shapes, and coat types. While the subtler differences between rabbit breeds are mostly of interest to those who are plan to show their bunnies, the average pet owner should focus on the size and type of coat. Breeds can vary in size from the smaller dwarf breeds weighing less than 2.5 pounds to some of the giant breeds, weighing in at a whopping 20 pounds or more. Coats range in color, from whites to browns, grays, and black, while fur varies in texture and ranges from short to long.

When deciding which rabbit breed is best for your household, keep in mind both the projected adult size as well as proper maintenance. For example, the longer-coated breeds require daily grooming, so they are a little more time-consuming than the shorter-hair breeds. Here is an alphabetical list of rabbit breeds, including the average size and coat type, so that you can make an informed decision if you would like to welcome a rabbit into your family.

Pet Rabbit Breeds: An Alphabetical List

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Alaskan

Alaska rabbit

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Based on its name, you might think the Alaska rabbit originated in the state of Alaska, but the jet-black breed is in fact native to Germany, where it was created primarily as a fur rabbit (non-pet), although the attractive-looking Alaska rabbit can make a fine pet. Though it was at one time recognized by the American Rabbit Breeders Association, the breed is no longer recognized by ARBA. The Alaska is recognized by the British Rabbit Council in the United Kingdom.

6 to 8.5 pounds

Black

Thick coat

Originated in Germany

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American

american white rabbit -

Jorja M. Vornheder / Getty Images

The American rabbit is a very rare breed. This large rabbit weighs about 12 pounds and comes in two solid colors (blue and white). The American is known for its sweet temperament and beautiful fur. The American Livestock Breed Conservancy lists the American as a critical breed.

9 to 12 pounds

Blue, white

Medium build, narrow head

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American Chinchilla

chinchilla

Melanie Dawn Harter / Getty Images

The history of the American Chinchilla dates back to the New York State Fair in 1919, where a British exhibitor sold two Chinchilla rabbits to two U.S. rabbit breeders, who went on to breed them up in size. Gentle and hardy, the American Chinchilla is the rarest of the Chinchilla rabbit breeds.

9 to 12 pounds

Chinchilla colored

Dense, fine hair that is smooth and glossy (1.25 inch-long coat)

Relatively round body

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American Sable

american sable rabbit

John Morrison / Getty Images

The medium-sized American Sable rabbit has a uniquely colored brown coat that resembles the color of a mink and features various shades from light to dark, with dark sepia color on the face, ears, feet, and tail. Rare today, the American Sable breed was created in the 1920s using different types of chinchilla rabbits.

7 to 10 pounds

Sepia brown

Medium build with soft, dense, fine coat with coarse guard hairs

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Angora

Angora rabbit

PeterTG / Getty Images

Angora rabbits are known for their profuse, silky wool coats, known as Angora wool. The luxurious coat requires considerable care, including frequent brushing to prevent or remove mats, as well as plucking, shearing, or clipping the coat every few months. There are several Angora rabbit breeds, including the English Angora, French Angora, Giant Angora, and Satin Angora.

Variety of sizes and colors

High maintenance

English angora: 5 to 7 pounds, long silky hair

French angora: 7.5 to 10.5 pounds

Giant Angora: 8.5+ pounds, soft fine undercoat (wool), straight stiff guard hairs, and a wavy fluff with a guard tip in between

Satin Angora: 6.5 to 9.5 pounds, very fine wool

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Argente Rabbits

Argente rabbit

GlobalP / Getty Images

Argente rabbits hail from France and are known for their dense, glossy silky coats that come in a variety of beautiful colors. There are several Argente rabbit breeds, which range in size, including Argente Brun (silver-brown), Argente Bleu (silver-blue), Champagne d'Argent (silver rabbit of Champagne), Argente Noir (born black, but transform to a silvery slate-blue color), Crème d'Argent (creamy-white color with a bright orange undercolor) and Argente St. Hubert (silver).

5 to 12 pounds

Various shades, including black, blue, slate, silver, brown, or creamy white

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Belgian Hare

Belgian Hare

Life On White / Getty Images

According to the American Rabbit Breeders Association, the Belgian Hare is one of the oldest rabbit breeds in the United States, dating back to the 1880s in America, though the breed was developed much earlier in Belgium. With its long, slender body, arched

back, and rounded hindquarters, the Belgian Hare looks much like a wild hare. The breed is extremely rare.

6 to 9.5 pounds

Reddish tan or chestnut with slate blue under-coloring; slender build, fairly stiff coat

Slender build

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Blanc de Hotot (White Hotot)

White hotot rabbit eating grass

Diana Elizabeth Photography, LLC / www.dianaelizabeth.com / Getty Images

The Blanc de Hotot (White Hotot) is a solid white rabbit with black "eyeliner" markings ringing its dark eyes. The Blanc de Hotot was developed in France in the early 19th century. The Blanc de Hotot rabbit was used to develop the Dwarf Hotot, which has similar markings but is much smaller.

8 to 11 pounds

White with black eye ring

Well rounded body

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Britannia Petite

brittania petite rabbit

Naruden / Getty Images

Weighing in at a maximum of 2.5 pounds, the Britannia Petite is a very tiny rabbit, and in fact, is one of the smallest rabbit breeds recognized by the American Rabbit Breeders

Association. In the United Kingdom, the Britannia Petite is known as the Polish. Energetic and high-strung, the Britannia Petite can be difficult to handle.

Less than 2.5 pounds

Ruby-eyed white, black otter, black, chestnut agouti

Slender, fine-boned build with a sleek, silky coat

One of the smallest breeds of rabbits

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Californian

Californian rabbit

Maksim Shchur / Getty Images

The Californian rabbit is one of the most popular breeds recognized by the American Rabbit Breeders Association. As its name suggests, the breed was created in Southern California in the 1920s. The Californian rabbit has a white body with Himalayan coloring (darker points of color on the extremities, including the nose, ears, feet, and tail. They always have pink eyes.

8 to 12 pounds

White, with black nose, ears, feet, tail

Rounded body, medium build, and a short smooth coat

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Checkered Giant

Checkered Giant rabbit

Francis Apesteguy / Contributor / Getty Images

A rabbit breed with a long history in the United States, the Checkered Giant was first recognized by the American Rabbit Breeders Association in 1919. True to its name, the Checkered Giant is a large rabbit that weighs at least 11 pounds or more and has

distinctive checkered markings on its white body. The breed is known as “the Rabbit Beautiful.” The Checkered Giant is an active rabbit that needs a lot of space to run.

More than 11 pounds

White with black or blue markings (along spine, body spots, cheek spots, colored ears, eye circles, and butterfly mark on nose)

Long, hare-like body

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Chinchilla

Chinchilla rabbit

coramueller / Getty Images

The American Rabbit Breeders Association recognizes three Chinchilla breeds: the American Chinchilla, the Standard Chinchilla, and the Giant Chinchilla. All Chinchilla rabbit breeds have soft coats with unique silver coloring that resembles the chinchilla, a small rodent native to South America that is also kept as a pet. The color is a blend of grays, with dark slate blue at the base, darker blue at the top edge, and shades of light gray in between.

5.5 to 6.5 pounds

Chinchilla grey colored

Fine boned

Black at birth with white hairs start showing at about 2 months

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Cinnamon

'Spice of the show rabbit'

Eric Wright / FOAP / Getty Images

The Cinnamon rabbit is so named due to its lustrous short red coat. The breed was created in the 1970s from a cross between a Chinchilla doe and the New Zealand buck. One of the bucks from the litter was then bred with a Checkered Giant/Californian doe, resulting in some red babies. Cinnamon rabbits are medium-sized and make sweet and affectionate pets.

8.5 to 11 pounds

Rust or cinnamon color with grey ticking on back and grey on the belly. Rust-colored spots inside hind legs as well as butterfly mark on nose and eye rings

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Continental

continental rabbit

Svetlana Lavereva / Getty Images

Sometimes referred to as Contis or Continental Giants, the Continental rabbit is likely related to the Flemish Giant. They come in white and colored varieties, and are a large breed, weighing up to 16 pounds. The Continental rabbit is recognized by the British Rabbit Council, but it is not recognized by the American Rabbit Breeders Association.

12.4 pounds and up

White, black, grey, chestnut, and varying shades

Live only 5 to 7 years

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Creme d'Argent

Creme d'Argent rabbit on blanket

Eric Wright / FOAP / Getty Images

Argente rabbits hail from France and are known for their dense, glossy silky coats that

come in a variety of beautiful colors. One of four Argente rabbit breeds recognized by the American Rabbit Breeders Association, the Crème d'Argent is known for its creamy-white coat with a bright orange undercolor. This rare breed only exists in the United States and the United Kingdom.

8 to 11 pounds

Creamy white with orange undercoat

Butterfly marking on nose

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Dutch

Dutch rabbits

Erich Schmidt / Getty Images

With its characteristic bi-colored markings, the Dutch rabbit is one of the most familiar rabbits, ranking in the top 10 of the most popular rabbit breeds. The breed is small, ranging from 3.5 to 5.5 pounds. Despite its name, the Dutch rabbit in fact originated in England, and it's one of the oldest breeds of rabbit, dating back to the 1850s. The Dutch rabbit is friendly and active, making it a popular pet.

3.5 to 5.5 pounds

White with black, blue, or brown; chocolate; steel; tortoise

The front of the face, body, and the back feet are white; the rest is colored

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Dward Hotot

White Rabbit in grass

Diana Elizabeth Photography, LLC / www.dianaelizabeth.com / Getty Images

The Dwarf Hotot rabbit is a unique-looking breed, all white with black "eyeliner"

markings ringing its dark eyes. It's related to the larger Blanc de Hotot (White Hotot), from which the Dwarf Hotot acquired its good looks. The Dwarf Hotot is very small, weighing in at less than 3 pounds. Friendly, curious, and active, the Dwarf Hotot is best as an only pet.

Less than 3 pounds

White with black eye rings

Rounded body

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English Lop

English Lop rabbit

Naruden / Getty Images

Famous for its extremely long ears (the longest of all rabbits), the English Lop is likely the first lop-eared rabbit breed, meaning all other lop-eared rabbit breeds can trace their ancestry back to the English Lop. English Lops have been known since the early 1800s and were extremely popular pets during the reign of Queen Victoria. Absolutely adorable, the English Lop is a calm and friendly pet.

More than 9 pounds

Agouti, broken, shaded, ticked, or wide-band color groups

Very long lop ears

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English Spot

English Spot rabbit

AlynJ / Getty Images

The attractively speckled English Spot traces its history back to England in the 1800s. The breed arrived in the United States just before the turn of the 20th century, where

they were warmly received. The English Spot has characteristic markings on its white body, including a butterfly mark on the nose, eye circles, cheek spots, spine markings (herringbones), colored ears, and a chain of spots along the body.

5 to 8 pounds

White with black, blue, chocolate, gold, grey, lilac, or tortoise

Long arched body like a hare

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Flemish Giant (Patagonian)

Flemish Giant rabbit

krithnarong / Getty Images

Named for its believed place of origin of Flanders, Belgium, the Flemish Giant rabbit has been known in Europe since the 17th century. The breed has no maximum weight, but some Flemish Giants can weigh 20 pounds or more. It was brought to the United States in the 1890s, where its large size proved helpful in increasing the weight of rabbits bred for meat. Nicknamed "the Gentle Giant" due to its extremely sweet temperament, the Flemish Giant is an exceptional pet.

Usually 10 to 20 pounds

Black, blue, fawn, light grey, sandy, steel grey, white

Long with a heavy build (but shouldn't be fat)

One of the largest breeds of rabbits

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Florida White

florida white rabbit

Shannon Merrell / EyeEm

Although the Florida White rabbit was initially bred in the 1960s for use as a laboratory rabbit, today this smaller rabbit breed is a popular pet and competitive show rabbit. As its name suggests, the Florida White is always pure white with red eyes. The breed has a maximum weight of 6 pounds.

4 to 6 pounds

Pure white

Rounded body

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French Lop

French Lop rabbit

thomaslenne / Getty Images

The French Lop is most likely descended from the English Lop and the Giant Papillon rabbit, which was a large spotted rabbit that's generally considered to be extinct today. The French Lop is a massive, heavy-boned rabbit that has no upper weight limit. Like the English Lop, the French Lop has low-set droopy ears, although they are not as long as the English Lop's ears. The French Lop is gentle and laid-back, with a sweet personality.

10 pounds and over

Agouti, broken, self, shaded, ticked, or wide-band groups

Muscular, heavy build

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Giant Papillon

The Giant Papillon rabbit was a large, spotted rabbit breed that is now considered extinct. However, some people consider the Giant Papillon to be virtually identical to another breed, the German Giant Spotted, so the technicality of its state of extinction is

sometimes debated. The Giant Papillon was also related to and extremely similar to the Checked Giant rabbit.

13 to 14 pounds

White with markings; similar to English Spot, except for patches on sides instead of spots

Possibly extinct

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Harlequin

Harlequin rabbit

LadyElizabeth / Getty Images

The Harlequin rabbit is a French breed that's been around since the 1880s. Harlequin rabbits are bi-colored (two different colors) in different color combinations. Japanese Harlequins may be orange or fawn combined with black, blue, chocolate, or lilac. Magpie Harlequins are white combined with black, blue, chocolate, or lilac. The pattern is unique, with alternating patches of color. For instance, an ideally patterned Harlequins will have half the face white while the other half of the face is black, then the pattern is flipped so the ear on the white side of the face is black while the ear on the black side of the face is white.

6.5 to 9.5 pounds

Black, blue, chocolate, lilac combined with white, orange, or fawn

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Havana

chocolate havana rabbit

Lorenzo Passini / Getty Images

The Havana rabbit is known as the "Mink of the Rabbit Fancy" due to its soft, luxurious, mink-like coat. This small rabbit has a compact body shape. Despite its name, the breed originated in Holland. The name Havana referred to the similarity between the color of Havana cigars and the rabbit's fur (at first, all Havana rabbits were chocolate-colored). Havanas were brought to the United States in the early 1900s; they were recognized by the American Rabbit Breeders Association in 1916.

4.5 to 6.5 pounds

Chocolate, black, blue, broken, and lilac

Compact, rounded body

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Himalayan

himalayan rabbit

Jupiterimages / Getty Images

The Himalayan rabbit is a striking rabbit with pointed coloration like a Siamese or Himalayan cat, consisting of a solid white body with darker "points" of color on the extremities (the nose, ears, feet, lower legs, and tail. Points may be black, blue, chocolate, or lilac. Affectionately called "Himmies," the Himalayan rabbit is also known for its unique, cylindrical body shape. The Himalayan is one of the oldest rabbit breeds, but its origins are debated. These small, sweet rabbits are laid-back and easy to handle.

2.5 to 4.5 pounds

White body with darker markings on the extremities in black, blue, chocolate, or lilac

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Holland Lop

Holland Lop rabbit

piyaphat50 / Getty Images

The diminutive Holland Lop is a dwarf rabbit breed with lop ears. It has a large head relative to its body, and small dropped ears. The Holland Lop is in the top five most popular breeds recognized by the American Rabbit Breeders Association. It is docile and easier to handle than some of the larger lop breeds of rabbits.

Less than 4 pounds

Agouti, broken, pointed white, self, shaded, ticked, or wide-band color groups

Muscular build, lop ears

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Jersey Woolly

jersey wooly rabbit

Martin Harvey / Getty Images

The Jersey Woolly is a relatively new breed of rabbit that was recognized by the American Rabbit Breeders Association in 1988. This dwarf breed has a woolen coat that is easier to care for than some other wool-coated rabbit breeds. The friendly Jersey Woolly is one of the most popular breeds on the rabbit show circuit.

Less than 3.5 pounds

Wide variety of colors, long wooly coat

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Lilac

The Lilac rabbit is a standout among rabbits thanks to its trademark pinkish dove-gray-colored soft fur. The breed was created in two places simultaneously in the early 20th century—in England and the Netherlands. Lilac-colored rabbits from both countries were imported to the United States in the 1920s. Today, the Lilac rabbit is a very rare, but treasured breed.

5.5 to 8 pounds

Lilac coloration

Compact body and dense coat

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Mini Lop

Mini Lop rabbit

robert reader / Getty Images

The Mini Lop is a small, lopped-eared rabbit breed. Its body is compact and stocky, and its head is the size of a softball. At 4.5 to 6.5 pounds, Mini Lop is larger than the Holland Lop but smaller than both the English Lop and French Lop.

4.5 to 6.5 pounds

Agouti, broken, pointed white, self, shaded, ticked, or wide-band color groups

Muscular and compact

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Mini Rex

Mini Rex rabbit

cynoclub / Getty Images

A relatively new breed of rabbit recognized by the American Rabbit Breeders Association in 1988, the Mini Rex is a smaller version of the Rex rabbit, which is famous for its velvety, plush, soft fur. Rex rabbits have a maximum weight of 10.5 pounds, but Mini Rex rabbits are 4.5 pounds maximum. It has a compact, rounded body and is sweet, friendly, and calm.

3 to 4.5 pounds

Black, blue, broken group, castor, chinchilla, chocolate, lilac, lynx, opal, red, seal tortoise, white

Compact, rounded body

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Netherland Dwarf

Netherland Dwarf Rabbit

sixty7a / Getty Images

Weighing less than 2.5 pounds, the Netherland Dwarf is one of the smallest breeds of rabbit. The Netherland Dwarf comes in 25 different colors, including black, blue, chinchilla, chestnut, chocolate, fawn, Himalayan, lilac, orange, steel, tortoiseshell, blue-eyed white, and ruby-eyed white. Some can be timid, so gentle handling is recommended.

Less than 2.5 pounds

Self-group, shaded group, agouti group, tan pattern group, fawn, Himalayan, orange, steel, tortoiseshell

Ears seem too short for head

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New Zealand

New zealand rabbit bunny

Srkzin Szucs Linda / EyeEm

Don't be fooled by the New Zealand rabbit's name—this breed was born and bred in the United States. The New Zealand was recognized by the American Rabbit Breeders Association in 1916. The medium to large breed comes in five color varieties: white, red, black, blue, and broken (any color mixed with white). New Zealand rabbits are affectionate and docile pets.

9 to 12 pounds

Black, red, white

Long, muscular body

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Palomino

Palomino rabbit

MarkoNOVKOV / Getty Images

The Palomino rabbit is named for its golden coat, which is reminiscent of that of the famous Palomino horse. The Palomino rabbit is an American creation, developed in Washington state in the 1940s and 1950s. The breed was first called "Tawnies," then "Washingtonian" but the breed name was changed to Palomino and officially recognized by the American Rabbit Breeders Association in 1957. Palomino rabbits are sweet and friendly pets.

Less than 9.5 pounds

Golden, lynx

Large, upright ears

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Polish

polish rabbit

magdasmith / Getty Images

Despite its name, the Polish rabbit is believed to have originated in Great Britain, although no one knows for sure. It is a very old breed, being mentioned in texts from 1860. Weighing less than 3.5 pounds, the Polish is a very small rabbit, but it's not a dwarf breed. The Polish rabbit is a calm and friendly pet.

Less than 3.5 pounds

Black, blue, chocolate, blue-eyed white, ruby-eyed white

Very short ears

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Rex

Rex Rabbit

Silentfoto / Getty Images

Known as the “King of the Rabbits,” the Rex rabbit is prized for its velvety, plush, soft fur, which is short and dense, lending it a unique feel. The luxurious coat comes in 16 color varieties. The Rex rabbit originated in France in the early 20th century. Rex rabbits are playful and affectionate.

7.5 to 10.5 lbs

Black, black otter, blue, broken group, Californian, castor, chinchilla, chocolate, lilac, lynx, opal, red, sable, seal, white

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Rhineland

The Rhineland rabbit comes from Germany, where it was developed in the early 20th century. It is what is known as an “arched rabbit,” which means its body type and posture are similar to a wild rabbit, appearing alert and ready to flee, with its belly pulled high from the ground. The is white with colored ears, eye circles, and spots in orange and black, or fawn and blue.

6.5 to 10 pounds

White with markings in black and orange or fawn and blue: six to eight round markings

on each side of the back part of the body, as well as a spine marking, butterfly mark on the nose, eye circles, colored ears, and round cheek spots

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Satin

satin rabbits

GlobalP/Getty Images

The Satin rabbit is directly related to the Havana rabbit. A gene mutation occurred in a litter of Havana rabbits that caused the babies to have coats with a lustrous sheen like satin. Satin rabbits come in 11 beautiful colors. Satins are sweet, calm, and friendly pets.

8.5 to 11 pounds

Black, blue, broken group, Californian, chinchilla, chocolate, copper, red, Siamese, white

Erect, full ears

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Silver

silver rabbit

Zeiss4Me / Getty Images

The Silver rabbit is so named for its distinctively colored coat, which consists of white hairs mixed into one of three colors (black, brown, or fawn), resulting in a beautiful silver-tinged hue. The Silver rabbit is believed to be the oldest breed of domesticated rabbit, with written records tracing the breed back to at least the 1500s. The Silver rabbit is friendly, active, and affectionate.

4 to 7 pounds

Black, brown, fawn with silver or white guard hairs

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Silver Fox

The Silver Fox was developed in the United States and in fact, it was the third American-bred rabbit breed. Although it was first called the American Heavyweight Silver, the name was later changed to American Silver Fox and then shortened to simply Silver Fox. The breed sports a dense, jet-black coat with a silvering effect that is similar to that of the silver Artic fox. Considered a heritage breed by the Livestock Conservancy, the Silver Fox is extremely rare today.

9 to 12 pounds

Jet black with silvering

Born solid black; silvering begins developing by 4 weeks of age

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Silver Marten

The Silver Marten was created accidentally when Chinchilla rabbit breeders introduced black and tan rabbits into Chinchilla breeds to improve the breed. Sometime later, unexpected black and silver rabbits began showing up in Chinchilla litters and a new breed was born. Today, the term silver marten is also used to describe the color black and silver—a color that appears in some other rabbit breeds, including the Netherland Dwarf, Mini Rex, and Mini Satin.

6 to 9.5 pounds

Black, blue, chocolate, sable with silver-tipped guard hairs

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Standard Chinchilla

standard chinchilla

Icealien / Getty Images

The Standard Chinchilla is one of three Chinchilla rabbit breeds recognized by the American Rabbit Breeders Association (the other two are the American Chinchilla and the Giant Chinchilla). All Chinchilla rabbit breeds have soft coats with unique silver coloring that resembles the chinchilla, a small rodent native to South America that is also kept as a pet. The color is a blend of grays, with dark slate blue at the base, darker blue at the top edge, and shades of light gray in between.

5 to 7.5 pounds

Chinchilla coloration

Rounded body

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Tan

Tan rabbit

bazilfoto / Getty Images

Tan rabbits appeared naturally in wild rabbit colonies in England, and people were obsessed. The uniquely colored rabbits were captured and domesticated in the late 19th century. Tan rabbits are bi-colored: red-orange markings with dark shading of another color (black, blue, chocolate, or lilac) on the back, sides, and head. The Tan rabbit is a full-arched breed, harkening to its wild ancestors. Tan rabbits are lively and friendly pets.

4 to 6 pounds

Black, blue, chocolate, or lilac

Tan markings include eye circles, nostrils, jowls, ears, backs of legs, toes, chest, belly, tail, and neck collar

Pet Rabbit Breed Sizes

While the breed of a rabbit, in most cases, has little impact on its quality as a pet, you may be interested in the size of the rabbit when it is adult or full-grown. Here are the breeds recognized by the American Rabbit Breeders Association, grouped by size:

Small Sized Rabbit Breeds - 2 to 6 pounds

American Fuzzy Lop

Britannia Petite

Dutch

Dwarf Hotot

Florida White

Havana

Himalayan

Holland Lop

Jersey Wolly

Mini Lop

Mini Rex

Netherland Dwarf

Polish

Silver

Tan

Medium Sized Rabbit Breeds - 6 to 9 pounds

American Sable

Belgian Hare

English Angora

English Spot

French Angora

Harlequin

Lilac

Rex

Rhineland

Satin Angora

Silver Marten

Standard Chinchilla

Large Sized Rabbit Breeds - 9 to 11 pounds

American

American Chinchilla

Beveren

Californian

Champagne d'Argent

Cinnamon

Crème d'Argent

English Lop

Giant Angora

Hotot

New Zealand

Palomino

Satin

Silver Fox

Giant Sized Rabbit Breeds - 11 pounds and more

Checkered Giant

Continental Giant (Conti)

Flemish Giant (Patagonian)

French Lop

Giant Chinchilla

FAQ

How many rabbit breeds are there?

According to the American Rabbit Breeders Association, there are 50 recognized unique rabbit breeds.

What breeds of rabbit stay small?

All the dwarf, mini, petite, and pygmy breeds; American fuzzy lops, Holland lops, Dutch, and Himalayans; Jersey woollys, and lionheads.

How do you identify rabbit breeds?

There are a number of online apps to help you identify your rabbit's breed. Or, the breed can be determined by your rabbit's size and weight, fur type, body shape, ear type, and color and markings.

30 Cutest, Cuddliest Bunny Breeds That Make Perfect Pets

Consider adding these rabbits, both common and rare, to your herd.

By Jill GleesonPublished: Aug 22, 2024

VerifiedExpert consulted:

Kathryn Dench, MA VetMB

bookmarks

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cute orange and white fuzzy tiny rabbit sitting outside facing camerapinterest

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If you're looking to add a unique but loving critter to your home, different than the

typical dog or cat, you're definitely going to want to check out our rundown of the 30 best bunny breeds below. Most domestic rabbits are extremely low maintenance—though some with longer fur do require regular grooming. But unlike man's best friend, they don't need to be walked (many may be litter-trained!) and they can be cuddlier than kitties, as Dr. Kim Meijer, a veterinarian on JustAnswer who specializes in rabbits and other exotic animal pets, says.

"Domesticated rabbits make great pets, especially once we are aware of what makes them special when compared to dogs and cats," Dr. Meijer says. "Rabbits are very smart, they are easily house-trained and love working together with their owner for treats. They often develop close bonds with their humans. Usually, male rabbits will bond with their humans a bit easier compared to female rabbits. My favorite trick to teach a rabbit is a high five, they can also learn to come when called, and they are often very good at agility exercises."

But the world is full of domestic bunny breeds—the American Rabbit Breeders Association (ARBA) currently recognizes more than 50!—so it's easy to get a bit overwhelmed when you're trying to zero in on the best rabbit for your household. To make the search a little easier for you, we've put together a board of bunny experts, including Dr. Meijer, DVM Jessica Thompson, and Dr. Kathryn Dench, veterinarian and chief scientific advisor for Paw Origins. They've weighed in on 30 floofy fellows, both common and a bit more exotic, that you might want to consider adopting. They're so adorable you don't need to wait til Easter to bring one home!

More Fun Pets to Consider Adopting:

Dogs that Look Like Bears

Fluffy Cat Breeds to Consider

Dogs that Stay Small Forever

cute orange and white fuzzy tiny rabbit sitting outside facing cameraValentina369

Blanc de Hotot

First bred in Hotot-en-Auge, in the Normandy region of France, the blanc de Hotot can be traced back to the early 19th century. This beautiful white bunny with what Dr. Thompson calls "distinctive 'eyeliner' markings," is also available in a smaller, dwarf size. "They are sweet, docile and great for children," Dr. Thompson adds. "They're one of my favorite breeds."

Weights 8-11 pounds

White coat with black eye bands

Lustrous fur

brown, shorthaired flemish giant rabbit sitting on grass in grass in front of wire pen
sidekrithnarong

2

Flemish Giant

Dating as far back as the early 1500s, the Flemish Giant is thought to have originated in Flanders, Belgium. Nicknamed the "Gentle Giant," they are "the largest breed of rabbit," says Dr. Meijer. "They can weigh up to nearly 50 pounds. However, most often they are about 15 pounds on average, which can be a consideration for someone who doesn't live in a large space. They are very friendly and love to cuddle!"

Usually weighs around 15 pounds

Coat available in a wide variety of colors

First came to U.S. in early 1890s

Advertisement - Continue Reading Below

orange holland lop rabbit with white belly and ears hanging down sitting on wood
floorpiyaphat50

3

Holland Lop

A Dutch breed developed in the mid-20th century, the Holland lop is today one of the

five most popular breeds recognized by the ARBA. "They are miniature rabbits, (weighing) 2 to 4 pounds on average," says Dr. Meijer. "Their ears are lopped, which means that they hang down instead of standing up. If you live in a smaller space, then this cute breed might be ideal for you."

Weights 2-4 pounds

Coat available in a wide variety of colors

Compact body with a large head

black and white spotted english spot rabbits on the top of cageDavid Herlianto

4

English Spot

Selective breeding accounts for the English spot's charmingly speckled appearance, which typically includes eye circles, cheek spots and a butterfly nose marking. Developed in England in the 1800s, this is a fully arched, medium-sized breed, with a pleasantly mild, even-keeled temperament. But though they were bred to be pets and show rabbits, they aren't typically fond of being picked up.

Weights 5 to 8 pounds

White coat with black, blue, chocolate, gold, gray, lilac, or tortoise

Arched, hare-like body

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black and white dutch rabbit feeding on grass in garden© Ian Laker Photography

5

Dutch

Despite his name, this distinctive-looking, bi-color bunny hails from England, where he can be traced back to the 1830s. A smaller breed, but plenty spritely, Dutch rabbits are "known for their striking color patterns and friendly nature," says Dr. Dench. "They are one of the most popular pet breeds."

Weights 3.5-5.5 pounds

White coat with black, blue, chinchilla, chocolate, gray, lilac, steel or tortoise

Well-rounded body

cute orange and white fuzzy tiny rabbit sitting outside facing cameraNaruden

6

English Lop

Developed, like the Hotot, in the early years of the 1800s, the English lop was a favorite pet of the Victorians. According to Dr. Thompson, they're famous for their "calm nature" and long ears—the longest of any bunny breed! "They make great pets for families with children and require little grooming," she adds.

Weights 9-12 pounds

Coat is short and stiff

Very long ears

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long white rabbit new zealand rabbit with ears back lying on red furnitureBirdlkportfolio

7

New Zealand

According to Dr. Meijer, despite their name New Zealand rabbits originate from California. They are said to be affectionate and gentle, though, as Dr. Meijer notes, "White New Zealand rabbits have albinism, which means a lack of melanin. Their eyes are ruby pink. This makes them more sensitive to light, so if you live in a bright, sunny location, this is something to keep in mind."

Weights 9-12 pounds

White, red, or black coat

Broad, muscular body

two long, reddish brown belgian hares stretched out on grassmichael meijer

8

Belgian Hare

Considered a threatened breed, the rare Belgian hare shows its wild rabbit heritage in its lithe, long, muscular body and arched back. One of the oldest breeds found in the United States, with roots going back to the 1880s, this beautiful bunny was actually developed more than a century earlier in Eastern Europe. Active, energetic and intelligent, they also tend to be high-strung and may make better outdoor pets than indoor ones.

Weights 6 to 9.5 pounds

Red rufus coat with black ticking or tan coat with black, blue, chocolate, and lilac with a tan undercoat

Slender body

Advertisement - Continue Reading Below

cute orange and white fuzzy tiny rabbit sitting outside facing cameraEric Wright / FOAP

9

Crème d'Argent

An extremely rare breed, which now is found only in the United States and the U.K., this bunny originated in France in the mid-1800s. They're "known for their friendly, spunky personality," says Dr. Thompson, as well as a creamy white coat with a distinctive orange under-color. With a population numbering less than 1,000, this is the ideal bunny for any family looking for a unique pet.

Weights 8-11 pounds

Creamy white coat with orange cast

Good breed for beginners

white rex rabbit with brown and black spots sitting on hay facing cameraValentina369

10

Rex

Dubbed "The King of the Rabbits," the stately rex made his public debut at a Paris rabbit show in 1924. These beloved bunnies are most famed for their short, thick and very soft fur, but Dr. Dench notes that they are also "well-regarded for their calm and sociable demeanor, making them excellent pets for families or individuals seeking a rabbit that genuinely enjoys being handled and petted."

Weights 7.5–10.5 pounds

Coat available in 16 varieties

Arrived in U.S. in 1924

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brown himalayan rabbit with deeper brown color on face, ears and paws against a white backgroundJupiterimages

11

Himalayan

Favored around the globe, where the breed is variously known as the Black Nose Rabbit from China, the Egyptian, and the Russian Rabbit, the Himalayan has been fondly nicknamed Himmies here at home. Said to be both ancient and one of the few bunnies not man-made through breeding, this fellow is renowned for his loving and mellow personality. For this reason, he makes an excellent pet for children.

Weights 2.5 to 4.5 pounds

Typically white coat with black, blue, chocolate, and lilac points

Unique cylindrical body

cute orange and white fuzzy tiny rabbit sitting outside facing cameraEric Wright / FOAP

12

Cinnamon

The result of breeding chinchilla, New Zealand, and checkered giant/Californian rabbits, this beautiful bunny is "a large, hardy breed with a calm temperament, making them ideal pets for children," says Dr. Thompson. Their "short, easy-to-care-for coat" offers a lovely orange under-color with gray ticking on the back and gray coloring on the sides.

Weights 9-11 pounds

Cinnamon coat

Sweet-natured

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a closeup shot of a white angora rabbit with long fluffy face furWirestock

13

Angora

There are said to be at least 11 breeds of angora rabbits in existence, though only four are recognized by the ARBA. Angoras are distinguished, in part, by their ability to produce soft, silky luxury wool also called angora. "Their coats require a bit more maintenance than your average rabbit, but you can use the wool," says Dr. Meijer. "One of my friends actually knitted a scarf out of wool from her Angora rabbits."

Weights 3-12 pounds

Coat available in a wide variety of colors

Higher maintenance

cute orange and white fuzzy tiny rabbit sitting outside facing cameraivan_7316

14

Californian

Developed about a century ago in the state it's named for, the Californian bunny is as chill as a SoCal surfer dude. "Gentle and easy to handle, these rabbits are rarely aggressive and make excellent family pets," says Dr. Thompson. "They're one of the most common breeds of rabbits that we see. They have beautiful white fur with black tips on the nose, tail, and ears."

Weights 8-10 pounds

White coat with black points

Gentle demeanor

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three checkered giant rabbits, one back and white spotted, one brown and one white with brown ears and brown around eye in front of white backgroundcynoclub

15

Checkered Giant

Dubbed the giant papillion in Europe where it was developed, the checkered giant has called the U.S. home for more than a century. Also known as "the rabbit beautiful," this is a very big, running bunny that needs a large cage to be happy, although they do well living inside the house with their humans and can be litter trained.

Weights at least 11 pounds

White coat with defined black or blue markings

Arched body

close up portrait of a very furry fawn colored english angora rabbitSandris Veveris

16

English Angora

This pleasingly pouffy puffball has a long, silky coat and is "the most popular Angora breed" of those recognized by the ARBA, according to Dr. Thompson. "Intelligent and playful, they love to interact but require significant grooming," she cautions. Angoras that aren't molting should be brushed/combed at least weekly.

Weights 5-7.5 pounds

Abundant, fluffy coat with dense bangs

Compact body

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cute orange and white fuzzy tiny rabbit sitting outside facing cameraValentina369

17

European Dwarf Angora

This small breed resulted from breeding Netherland dwarfs and angoras, according to

Dr. Thompson, and is not currently recognized in the U.S. "They are more timid and need regular grooming," she says. "Dwarf bunnies (in general) tend to be more timid and not enjoy being held as much or may spook easily."

Weights less than 3.5 pounds

Luxurious, long coat

The popular Jersey Wooly is a type of dwarf angora

black havana rabbit sitting in garden plant pot by bird bathGabrielle Banovac

18

Havana

With a nickname like "The Mink of the Fancy," you know this bunny will have a lush and intensely-colored coat, and indeed it does. Called the Havana because the hue of its fur resembled the chocolate shade of the cigar, the breed initially appeared in Holland in 1898 before spreading to the United States. Havanas are affectionate to the point of loving a good snuggle and make wonderful family pets.

Weights 4.5-6.5 pounds

Chocolate, blue, black, broken and lilac coats.

Compact body

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brown mini satin rabbit with white belly on faux grassNaruden

19

Mini Satin

Initially named the "satinette," this American bunny is the result of breeding satin, Polish and Netherland dwarfs. Dr. Dench calls them "delightful," adding, "They are relatively small, making them perfect for those who prefer a pet that requires less space. Mini satins are friendly and generally easy to handle, though their fine fur does require regular grooming to keep it in good condition."

Weights 3 to 4.75 pounds

Coat available in 16 colors

Unique fur reflects light, giving it a satin-like sheen

a fluffy fawn colored lionhead rabbit with very long hair over face and body sitting and looking at the cameraMary Swift

20

Lionhead

One of the breeds more recently recognized by the ARBA (in 2014), the lionhead is one showstopping bunny. While it's not known exactly where or how the lionhead was developed, Dr. Meijer notes "The Lionhead breed has one of the longest life spans of all rabbit breeds, typically around 7 to 9 years. Their name comes from the mane that they have, they can be single-maned or double-maned. They can be a bit more nervous, so if you have a busy household (with young children) then they might not be the ideal breed."

Weights 2.5–3.75 pounds

Coat available in a wide variety of colors

Long, woolly fur with thick mane

Which Rabbit Breed Makes the Best Pet?

Trying to decipher which breeds of rabbits make the best pets can be quite an undertaking. Maybe you just want a snuggly little companion. Maybe your kids finally got you to cave. Whatever the reason, choosing a breed can become overwhelming.

And while the American Rabbit Breeders Association recognizes 50 rabbit breeds, there are many more options to choose from. From the fanciest breeds to the hybrid cottontails down the road, you really have your hands full in deciding which lucky bun will soon be a part of your family.

So, we decided to take some of the research off your plate with this cheat sheet of the best breeds of rabbits for pets.

The good news?

Each rabbit on this list is a winner in our book.

They're friendly, good with kiddos, and of course, completely cuddly and cute.

What to Consider When Choosing Breeds: Rabbits for Pets

Before we dive in, there's a few things to think about when choosing your pet rabbit breed.

While each breed on our list is equally adorable and furbaby-worthy, there are a few things to consider when presented with the face-melting cuteness of a bunny.

Think about these three things when deciding on a breed of rabbit for your family:

1. How Much Space Will Your Rabbit Need

Rabbits come in all different shapes and sizes. Some are quite large, and considered giants, while others are teeny tiny and referred to as mini (the miniature of the standard breed size).

Smaller rabbits need less space, but if you're going big you'll need bigger cages, bigger potty areas, and more space for bunny antics and exercises.

2. Long or Short Fur Rabbits

Next, consider what kind of fur you're ok with. Because, like cats and dogs, rabbits do shed.

Long-haired rabbits are beautiful, but they require upkeep. In fact, these buns need their hair done on a regular basis to prevent painful snarls and knotting.

3. Will You Show Your Rabbits?

If your kiddos are destined for the rabbit show ring, you'll want to ensure you're buying from a reputable breeder who breeds registered rabbits.

That way, your rabbit can bring home the bacon and fry it up in a pan.

There are many things to consider when bringing any new pet into your home. But now that you've got a few of the deal-breakers out of the way, let's get on with the list of best pet rabbit breeds.

rex rabbit

Calmost Pet Rabbit Breed: The Rex Rabbit

First on our list is the plush, velvety Rex rabbit. This bunny is quite docile and laid back and a favorite among young children. They're cool with relaxing on the couch and accepting pets from their parents and human siblings.

Their fur is shorter and denser than other breeds. And, if we may say so ourselves...it's irresistible! You can find this gorgeous bunny in a variety of colors, including black, blue, chinchilla, chocolate, Himalayan, lilac...and on and on it goes!

lop eared rabbit

Friendliest Rabbit for Pets: The Lop

Friendliness is a trait that can be found across all rabbit breeds. But if you're looking for the Golden Retriever of all the breeds of rabbits out there...look to the Lop (specifically the Mini Lop or The American Fuzzy Lop).

The Lop has droopy ears and an expression that just begs to be loved and cuddled. (And they know it!) The standard sized Lops are fantastic pets, but the minis provide the same personality in a smaller package.

The mini-lop is also quite the entertainer. They're active, feisty, and have a great sense of humor. The only downfall is the summer shed they go through every year.

flemish giant rabbits

Biggest Breeds of Rabbits: Flemish Giants

The Flemish Giant is a gentle giant, make no mistake! And if you've seen the viral photos of bunnies as big as a small child (or bigger) they're typically from the Flemish Giant varieties. On average, these rabbits weigh around 15 pounds and they grow very quickly.

As big as they are, this breed is fun to pick up, snuggle, and, of course, give treats.

And speaking of feed, they'll need a bit more than the typical sized rabbit to maintain a healthy weight. They'll also require a larger habitat than your average-sized bunny.

You can find Giant Flemish rabbits with black, blue, fawn, light gray, sandy, steel gray or white coats.

angora rabbit

Best Long-haired Pet Breed: Angora Rabbits

If you love the idea of a huge fluffball in the middle of your living room, you'll love Angora Rabbits. They're soft, extremely fluffy, and fairly docile.

As mentioned, any long-haired rabbit will need a consistent grooming regime, but think of it as more time to spend with your beloved bunny!

Fun fact: Angora rabbit fur is used to make some of the most beautiful fiber in the world! So if you've been considering taking up spinning or knitting, your Angora rabbit can triple as a pet, hobby, and maybe even moneymaker.

That being said, Angoras prefer to be left on the ground, thank-you-very-much, and aren't big on being toted around the house. If this is the breed for you, make sure your family knows that Miss Cottontail enjoys her personal space.

harlequin rabbit

Smartest Pet Rabbit Breed: Harlequin Rabbit

This calico-like rabbit breed is easy on the eyes and as curious as they come. In fact, you'll probably want to purchase a toy box for this bunny because she is crazy about toys.

You'll find that this cutie pie always wants to be a part of the action and is one of the easier rabbits to walk on a leash.

In other words, this fluffer isn't going to shy away from new things if approached gently.

chinchilla rabbit

Best Lap Bunny: Chinchilla Rabbit

Smart, cute, active – rabbits have many different personalities. But if you're looking for a rabbit breed that's sweet with kids and ready to binge-watch your newest show with, a Chinchilla rabbit might be the best pet rabbit for you (named for their soft fur that resembles a chinchilla).

This pretty breed likes to relax. So if you've always thought of yourself as someone who wants to curl up at the end of the day with your fluffer, well, this bun will hit the spot.

Bonus Points: The Chinchilla rabbit is known to enjoy getting petted.

Which Rabbit Breed is Best For You?

The truth is, rabbits make great pets, and which breed you choose will come down to your family's preferences.

And if you ask us, you simply can't go wrong when it comes to a pet rabbit. So try your best not to feel overwhelmed because there's a bunny out there with your name on it just waiting to become part of your family.

The 10 Best Rabbit Breeds for Beginners

By: Yvonne VillasenorUpdated: October 1, 2024

Photo of a white and grey rabbit sitting outside

artemisphoto/iStock / Getty Images Plus

Home / New Pet /

Considering adopting a rabbit? Rabbits are intelligent and affectionate animals with their own unique personalities—and just like with dogs and cats, some breeds are more beginner-friendly than others. Here, we'll dive (or hop) right in and explain which rabbit breeds are ideal for first-time pet parents and why.

In This Guide:

10 Best Rabbit Breeds for Beginners

Other Popular Rabbit Breeds

Caring for Rabbits

10 Best Rabbit Breeds for Beginners

We spoke with Christine Toering, a rabbit judge for the American Rabbit Breeders Association (ARBA), in Tucson, Arizona, about the 10 breeds she considers to be the best for beginners.

Photo of a Himalayan rabbit

Julia/Adobe Stock

1 Himalayan

The Himalayan rabbit is an eye-catching breed with a docile, laid-back personality. Toering says they're a small, slender, and generally healthy breed of rabbit. They typically weigh around 2.5–5 pounds and have a thin, low-maintenance coat. You'll know a Himalayan rabbit by their pinkish eyes and white coat. They also have black, blue, chocolate, or lilac-colored points on their nose, tail, feet, and ears.

"They are hands down my recommendation for new rabbit owners because of their temperament but are often overlooked by new rabbit owners because of their red eyes," Toering says.

Photo of a Dutch rabbit

Connie Wade/Adobe Stock

2 Dutch

If you're imagining a typical pet rabbit, you're probably thinking about a Dutch. These rabbits are a classic-looking breed with distinct white markings, Toering says. They're most commonly seen in black and white, but also come in a variety of other colors combined with white. Toering notes that the Dutch rabbit is friendly and has a low-maintenance coat, making them a good beginner breed.

Photo of a Polish rabbit jumping over an obstacle

Kittisuper/iStock / Getty Images Plus

3 American Polish

Not to be confused with the difficult-to-handle Britannia Petite, known as the Polish rabbit in Britain, the American Polish rabbit is a good breed for beginners, Toering says. This is one of the smallest breeds of rabbit, with a maximum weight of 3.5 pounds. Their coat can be black, blue, chocolate, lilac, or “broken pattern” (solid colors spotted with white). And though each rabbit is unique, Toering says that American Polish rabbits usually have a friendly personality.

Photo of a Flemish Giant rabbit

krithnarong/iStock / Getty Images Plus

4 Flemish Giant

If you've ever wanted a big, snuggly bunny, the Flemish Giant is the rabbit for you. This breed's telltale characteristic is their massive size. They have an official minimum weight of 13 pounds for males and 14 pounds for females but are often considerably larger, Toering says. It isn't uncommon for some Flemish Giants to reach 20 pounds or more.

Nicknamed the “gentle giant,” this large rabbit is known to be incredibly calm and patient. But there are some caveats for beginners: They require frequent grooming due to their thick, heavy-shedding coat, and also need lot of space given their size.

Photo of a Holland Lop rabbit

Photo: caption text

5 Holland Lop

The Holland Lop is the smallest lop breed, usually weighing no more than 4 pounds. Holland Lops rank among the top five most popular rabbit breeds and are known for their lopped ears and sweet and spirited personality.

These rabbits have a dense coat and require regular grooming, particularly when they're molting, to prevent matting, Toering says. It's essential to find an ethical and responsible rabbit breeder, as some Holland Lops may be prone to malocclusion

(misaligned teeth) if poorly bred, which can lead to severe health issues, including difficulty eating and chronic pain.

Photo of a Mini Lop rabbit playing with a toy

PavelRodimov/iStock / Getty Images Plus

6 Mini Lop

Mini Lops are actually larger than Holland Lops—in fact, they're one of the largest breeds on this list, weighing around 4–6 pounds. Mini Lops have a thicker coat, similar to Holland Lops, and have a softball-sized head. They should also be groomed frequently to prevent matting. Compared to Holland Lops, Toering describes them as being more laid-back and independent in their personality.

Photo of a black Havana rabbit

Mjm91, CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons

7 Havana

The Havana, also known as the “Mink of the Fancy,” has a stunning, lustrous coat and weighs 4.5–6.5 pounds. They're often seen in solid colors like black, blue, chocolate, and lilac, or in broken pattern.

Toering notes that the personalities of Havanas can vary. In her experience, she's found that the males tend to be fairly calm, but the females can be a little flighty—not aggressive, she says, but not as curious and outgoing as some other breeds on this list. Still, she recommends Havanas for beginners because they're generally healthy and have a low-maintenance coat.

Photo of a Netherland Dwarf rabbit

Mary Swift/iStock / Getty Images Plus

8 Netherland Dwarf

The Netherland Dwarf is one of the smallest breeds of rabbit, weighing in at a whopping 2 pounds! Even with their tiny size, they're as high-powered as the Energizer Bunny.

“Netherland Dwarfs tend to be pretty energetic little rabbits,” Toering says. “This can either end up with them being curious and energetic (more common in the males), or they can end up flighty (more common in the females).”

Netherland Dwarfs have a distinct round head with short ears, which Toering explains is caused by the dwarfism gene that's found in several other small rabbit breeds, like the Mini Rex, Jersey Wooly, and many Holland Lops.

The Netherland Dwarf rabbit can appear in 25 color varieties, both solid and broken. Their medium, thick fur needs deshedding when they're molting but is generally low-maintenance the rest of the year, Toering notes. Like Holland Lops, Netherland Dwarfs who are poorly bred can be more susceptible to malocclusion.

Photo of a brown-and-white Mini Rex rabbit

Marine2844/iStock / Getty Images Plus

9 Mini Rex

The Mini Rex weighs around 4 pounds and is beloved for their friendly demeanor. Mini Rex rabbits are easily recognized for their unique fur, as they have short guard hairs that give them a very short, plush, and low-maintenance coat, Toering says.

However, because these guard hairs are shorter and weaker compared to those of other rabbits, this doesn't provide the bottoms of their feet with adequate protection and can make them prone to sore hocks.

Photo of a white Jersey Wooly rabbit

Mary Swift/iStock / Getty Images Plus

10 Jersey Wooly

Another popular breed, the long-haired Jersey Wooly has a gentle, easygoing personality and a relatively easy-to-care-for coat compared to other long-haired breeds, Toering says. Their body structure is similar to the Netherland Dwarf, with the

exception that they're just a bit bigger, weighing about 3 pounds. And just look at that gorgeous coat!

Toering notes that because of this wool, Jersey Wooly rabbits tend to need more protein in their diet. Adult Jersey Wooly rabbits can eat a diet intended for young or growing rabbits to help them maintain the energy needed for wool growth, she adds.

Other Popular Rabbit Breeds

Interested in learning more about the other 42 ARBA-recognized rabbit breeds? Here's a quick overview of the different ever-so-fluffy and fascinating types of domestic rabbits:

Breed

Size (Max weight)

Fur Type

Color

Ear Type

American

12 pounds

Short

Blue, white

Erect

American Chinchilla

12 pounds

Short

Dark slate blue, dark blue, light gray

Erect

American Fuzzy Lop

4 pounds

Long

Various (e.g., chestnut, chinchilla, lynx, opal, lilac, fawn, orange, etc.)

Lop

American Sable

9 pounds

Short

Brown/sepia

Erect

Argente Brun

10.5 pounds

Medium

Silvered or frosted chocolate brown

Erect

Belgian Hare

9.5 pounds

Short

Rufus, tan, black, blue, chocolate, lilac

Erect

Beveren

12 pounds

Long

Black, white, blue

Erect

Blanc de Hotot

11 pounds

Short

White

Erect

Blue Holicer

7.25 pounds

Medium

Blue

Erect

Britannia Petite

2.5 pounds

Short

Various (e.g., black, black otter, chestnut agouti, ruby-eyed white, sable marten, etc.)

Erect

Californian

10.5 pounds

Short

White with dark points

Erect

Champagne d'Argent

12 pounds

Short

Black (when young), silver (when mature)

Erect

Checkered Giant

12 pounds and up (no maximum weight)

Short

White with black or blue markings

Erect

Cinnamon

11 pounds

Short

Rust with smoky gray shading

Erect

Creme d'Argent

11 pounds

Short

Cream with orange

Erect

Czech Frosty

8.25 pounds

Short

Frosty

Erect

Dwarf Hotot

3 pounds

Short

White with black, blue, chocolate, or lilac eye bands

Erect

Dwarf Papillon

4.25 pounds

Short

Black, blue, chocolate

Erect

English Angora

7.5 pounds

Long

Various (black, blue, chocolate, lilac, etc.)

Erect

English Lop

11 pounds and up (no maximum weight)

Short

Various (e.g., sable, fawn, orange, cream, ruby-eyed white, black, blue, etc.)

Lop

English Spot

8 pounds

Short

White with black, blue, chocolate, gold, gray, lilac, or tortoise markings

Erect

Florida White

6 pounds

Short

White

Erect

French Angora

10.5 pounds

Long

Various (e.g., black, blue, lilac, etc.)

Erect

French Lop

15 pounds and up (no maximum weight)

Medium

Various (e.g., sable, fawn, orange, cream, ruby-eyed white, black, blue, etc.)

Lop

Giant Angora

12 pounds and up (no maximum weight)

Long

Ruby-eyed white, chestnut

Erect

Giant Chinchilla

16 pounds

Short

Gray and silver gray

Erect

Harlequin

9.5 pounds

Short

Orange, fawn, or white with black, blue, chocolate, or lilac

Erect

Lilac

8 pounds

Short

Pinkish dove-gray

Erect

Lionhead

3.75 pounds

Long

Various (e.g., black, ruby-eyed white, chocolate, tortoise, etc.)

Erect

Mini Satin

5 pounds

Short

Various (e.g., black, blue, chocolate, red, white, etc.)

Erect

New Zealand

12 pounds

Short

Black, blue, red, white, broken

Erect

Palomino

11 pounds

Short

Golden, lynx

Erect

Rex

10.5 pounds

Short

Various (e.g., black, chocolate, white, red, etc.)

Erect

Rhineland

10 pounds

Short

White with orange and black, or fawn and blue spots

Erect

Satin

11 pounds

Short

Various (e.g., black, blue, chocolate, red, white, etc.)

Erect

Satin Angora

9.5 pounds

Long

Various (e.g., black, blue, chestnut, sable, cream, fawn, ruby-eyed white, etc.)

Erect

Silver

7 pounds

Short

Black, brown, fawn

Erect

Silver Fox

12 pounds

Short

Black, chocolate, blue

Erect

Silver Martin

9.5 pounds

Short

Black, blue, chocolate, lilac, sable

Erect

Standard Chinchilla

7.5 pounds

Short

Dark slate blue under color, with a dark blue/light gray top edge

Erect

Tan

5.5 pounds

Short

Black, blue, chocolate, lilac

Erect

Thrianta

6 pounds

Short

Orange-red

Erect

Caring for Rabbits

While some species require more care in certain aspects than others, all rabbits require the same general care. Walter Merker, DVM, veterinarian at Orange Grove Animal Hospital in Tucson, Arizona, shares these tips on how to best care for your rabbit:

Feed your adult rabbit a nutritious, balanced diet. Rabbits' daily feeding should consist of 70% high-quality grass hay, 20% high-quality pellets fortified with vitamins and minerals, and 10% organic, leafy green vegetables. Vegetables and fruits that are high in carbohydrates should be fed only in moderation, while pelleted diets with dried fruits and vegetables should be avoided altogether to prevent health issues linked to an overly rich diet.

Keep your rabbit physically active and mentally stimulated. Rabbits need about four hours of supervised play daily. Keep them entertained with rabbit-safe toys and treats, such as woven hay or hay huts, tunnels, and chews.

Provide them with spacious housing and the essentials. Their enclosure should be large and with a solid bottom. Place two water sources (a ceramic bowl and a water bottle), a clean litter box with dust-free litter, unlimited access to hay, a ceramic food dish, and multiple rabbit-safe chew toys.

Schedule regular vet appointments. A qualified small-mammal vet can conduct annual exams to help identify potential dental issues, internal and external parasites, obesity, and any other health issues. Rabbits above the age of 5 or those with known dental disease should be seen every six months.