

Heartland Rabbit Rescue



Dandy Dan

Rabbit First Aid Kit

Emergencies can happen at any time and you want to make sure that you are prepared to avoid potentially life-threatening situations for your rabbit. Many of the items that you should include in your Rabbit First Aid Kit can be found around the house. You'll also want to have a container for all of the items and to place it in an easy to find spot in case of an emergency.

You should include the following items in your Rabbit First Aid Kit:

- **Baby Food** - Use when your rabbit refuses to eat; it's easy to get baby food or canned pumpkin into a feeding syringe.
- **Chlorhexidine Solution**– Use to flush wounds.
- **Critical Care by Oxbow** - You can also use this when your rabbit refuses to eat. Available through your vet's office or at Petsmart.
- **Eyedropper** - to administer the saline.
- **Styptic Powder** (or flour) - If you trim your rabbit's nails a little too short and they begin to bleed, dip the paw into the flour.
- **Gas Medication** (Simethicone) - Use in case of a gas emergency. Various brands for babies are acceptable, including Gerber's Gas Relief Drops.
- **Gauze and Cotton Balls** - Use to clean and care for wounds.
- **Hairball Remedy** - Offer this to your rabbit weekly to prevent the build-up of hair in the digestive tract. Rabbits cannot cough up hairballs as cats do. During a molt (shedding), offer it daily. Hartz Hairball Remedy can be found in most grocery stores. Make sure to get the malt flavored kind and follow the directions. Do NOT give if your rabbit has stopped eating and is not producing fecal pellets—consult with your vet.
- **Hydrogen Peroxide**—Use initially on wounds. Thereafter use the chlorhexidine solution as hydrogen peroxide inhibits the tissue's healing.
- **Mineral Oil** - for the treatment of ear mites and skin irritations.
- **Nail Clippers**
- **Neosporin** (non-pain relief) - You can use this if your bunny has a minor cut or wound.
- **Probios** - Administer to rabbits who are not eating. Helps to restore balance in an upset stomach. BeneBac is another widely available brand.
- **Rubbing Alcohol** - for sterilizing scissors, tweezers and other tools.
- **Saline** - for gentle wash around the eye area in case of irritation.
- **Scissors** - Use to trim the fur surrounding a bunny wound. Be careful! Rabbit skin is extremely elastic and is difficult to see through the fur. Be certain that the skin remains clear of the scissors.
- **Syringes** of various sizes for administering food and liquids.
- **Tweezers**

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