

RABBIT SHOWMANSHIP QUESTIONS (updated 1/5/26)

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Magazine: domestic rabbits

Headquarters: Knox, Pennsylvania

District 2: California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Hawaii and southern Asia, Australia

*As of 11/2025 there are 54 breeds of rabbit registrable in the US with ARBA

1. If a rabbit has a dewlap, where is it? Under its chin.
2. Do Bucks or Does get dewlaps? Does
3. Where is the saddle on a rabbit? Middle of the back.
4. Where is the loin on a rabbit? Top of lower back near the rabbit's rump
5. Where is the hock on a rabbit? Bottom of Rear feet.
6. Where is the flank on a rabbit? Side of Rabbit near the middle
7. What is a stifle? The knee, the second joint of the hind leg which connects the thigh to the leg
8. What does gestation mean? A pregnancy – the time period that a pregnant doe carries her young
9. What is the normal gestation period for a rabbit? Usually 28-34 days (31 is average)
10. What is the word for a rabbit giving birth? Kindling
11. What is the word for a minor (small) imperfection, such as hutch stains? Fault
12. What is the word for a major imperfection, such as wrong eye color, or missing toes? Disqualification. (DQ)
13. What is snuffles? An upper respiratory disease, like a bad cold. It's a bacterial infection that causes sneezing and mucus discharge from the nose of a rabbit
14. What are buck (wolf) teeth, and is it a DQ or a fault? An Improper alignment of the upper or lower teeth, a disqualification
15. What are newborn rabbits called? Kits
16. How do you prevent sore hocks? Keep hutch clean and provide a board for rabbit to get off the wire
17. Name a breed whose fur/wool is used to make yarn? Angora, Jersey Wooly
18. What is it called when a rabbit sheds it's fur? Molting
19. What is a pedigree? A written family history, a record of the rabbit's parents, grandparents and great grandparents. It also shows the date of birth, color and senior weight
20. What does A.R.B.A. stand for? American Rabbit Breeders Association
21. Name two of the eight smallest breeds of rabbit? Britannia Petite – not over 2 lb,

Netherlanddwarf- 2 lb, Dwarf Hotot- 2 lb, Polish – 2 lb, Holland Lop – 4 lb, American Fuzzy Lop – 4 lb, Jersey Woolley-3 lb, Himalayan – 4 lb

22. If you are a Junior in 4H what grades could you be in? 3rd, 4th, or 5th

23. What causes buck teeth and what can be done to correct them? It is genetic and nothing can be done. The rabbit should not be bred.

24. How can you cool a rabbit in hot weather? Shade the hutch, use a fan, add frozen water bottles to hutch, put wet socks on ears, rub ears with ice or a wet rag

25. If you have three rabbits, and one is sick, what should you do first? Isolate the sick one

26. Name four types of fur. Normal (roll back, fly back and standing), Satin, wool and rex

27. What are the long hairs of a rabbit's coat called? Guard Hairs

28. What is the term for an abnormally bent or twisted tail? Wry tail or Screw tail

29. What does variety mean? A division within a breed of rabbits determined by color

30. What does a rabbit use it's tail and hind feet for? Communications, signal danger

31. If a toenail is bleeding how can you stop it? Dip it in flour, cornstarch, quick stop, or styptic powder

32. What is the word for eliminating (taking out) a member of your herd? Cull

33. What is the purpose of a tattoo? Identification

34. Can you bathe a rabbit? Yes but it is not recommended

35. Which ear is a rabbit's tattoo placed in? Left ear

36. Normally, how many times in a year can a rabbit molt? As many as three times

37. Where is the registration identification placed on a rabbit? Right ear

38. When a rabbit is registered what does it prove? That a rabbit has a complete pedigree showing a minimum of three generations and meets the minimum ARBA standards for that particular breed

39. How much should you feed a rabbit each day? One ounce of pellets per pound of rabbit

40. How many degrees of vision does a rabbit have? 360 degrees

41. How many eyelids does a rabbit have? Three-upper, lower and inner.

42. What is the purpose of the third eyelid? To protect the cornea during a dust storm and still be able to see

43. What organs of the rabbit are in the chest cavity, well protected by the ribs? The heart and lungs

44. What is the total number of toes a rabbit has? Eighteen-five on each front foot and four on the rears.

45. How many teeth does a rabbit have? 28 <4 incisors -2 on top and 2 on the bottom. Right behind the top incisors are 2 small peg like teeth called auxiliary incisors or "peg teeth". Plus rabbits have cheek teeth that they use to grind their food. 6 upper premolars, 4 lower premolars, 6 upper and 6 lower molars.>

46. Name three general disqualifications. Wrong eye color, crooked legs, blindness, wall eye, lop ears (in a non-lop ear breed), torn ears, buck teeth, wry tail, missing toes

47. How many ribs does a rabbit have? 24

48. When can you breed a doe? When it has reached maturity – normally around five to six months of age depending on the breed

49. Can a doe be bred year round? Yes

50. When should a nest box be placed with a doe? 21-27 days

51. How long should the kits be left with the doe? 8 weeks, depending on the breed and the young
52. Can you foster the kits of one doe to another? Yes
53. When breeding rabbits, the doe is always taken to the buck, true or false? Explain why. True, does are very territorial and she may harm the buck if he's taken to her
54. What term is used when describing the thickness of a rabbit's coat? Density
55. Explain the texture of a rabbit's coat. The texture is the feel and quality of the fur when stroked towards the head
56. How many lop breeds are there? Name them. 5—English Lop, French Lop, Mini Lop, Holland Lop, and the American Fuzzy Lop
57. How does a rabbit regulate its temperature? Through its ears
58. How many breeds of rabbit have wool? name them. Six breeds – English Angora, French Angora, Giant Angora, Satin Angora, Jersey Woolly and the American Fuzzy Lop
59. What are 'bell ears'? Ears that have large, heavy tops that fold over
60. What is a rabbitry? Living quarters for raising domestic rabbits
61. Name four of the six breeds of rabbit that have a color in their name. Cinnamon, Lilac, Palomino, Sable, Silver, and Tan
62. What is the 4H Sportsmanship motto? Keep your head when you win and your heart when you lose
63. Why are wire cages better than all wood? Less bacteria and easier to clean
64. True or false, a clean nest box is extremely important? True, to prevent snuffles and conjunctivitis
65. Why is good sanitation important in your rabbitry? to prevent diseases
66. Which is more dangerous to your rabbit, hot or cold weather? Hot
67. The word 'normal' describes what on a rabbit? A type of fur
68. What breed of rabbit was developed in Washington State? The Palomino
69. True or false, a nest box should be placed with a doe as soon as she is bred? False
70. At a fair, what is the difference between 4H class and open class? Only 4H members can enter a 4H class, open class means anyone.
71. True or false, you should always supply a salt spool for your rabbit? False.
72. True or false, kits double their birth weight in six days? True
73. What does B.O.G. stand for? Best Of Group
74. What does B.I.S. stand for? Best In Show
75. What does B.O.B. stand for? Best Of Breed
76. What does B.O.S. Stand for? Best Opposite Sex
77. What does B.O.S.G. stand for? Best Opposite Sex of Group
78. What does B.O.V. stand for? Best Of Variety
79. What does B.O.S.V.? Best Opposite Sex Variety
80. Is rabbit meat, white, dark or both? White meat
81. What does REW stand for? Ruby Eyed White
82. Can people get ringworm from rabbits? Yes
83. When showing lop breeds, what are the two show groups called in a type show? Broken and solid
84. Name one breed of rabbit on which you will find upright fur? (when fur is stroked from tail to

shoulder) Rex, Mini Rex, Silver Fox

85. What is an abscess? A hard swelling or isolated collection of pus occurring on the rabbit's body

86. Which is more important for your rabbit, plenty of food or water? Water

87. What breed of rabbit originated in China? Himalayan

88. What is the age of a junior rabbit? Under six months old

89. What is Mastitis? Infectious, inflammation of the mammary glands

90. In freezing weather, should rabbits be given warm or cold water? Warm water

91. How often is the Standard of Perfection revised? Every five years

92. Name one breed of rabbit on which you will find satin fur? Satin or Satin Angora

93. True or false, Rabbits can withstand cold weather so long as they have shelter from wind and rain? True

94. In what country did the American Fuzzy Lop originate? United States of America

95. To rabbit breeders, what is a butterfly? A nose marking on some breeds and broken varieties of rabbits

96. What is luster? The brightness or brilliance of the fur

97. What is the best prevention and control of parasites? (1. Sanitation (2. Quality housing (3. Adequate health (4. An understanding of parasites

98. True or false, a rabbit should never be picked up by its ears? True

99. Name three eliminations (DQ). Ear mites, sore hocks, over weight, under weight, cold, sore eyes, vent disease, mange, does that are heavy with young

100. In what country did the Dutch rabbit originate? Holland

101. What is the novice in the 4H project? Someone in their first year of 4H

102. What type of fur has a sheen to it? Satin

103. What type of fur does the English Angora have? Wool

104. Are rabbits or Hares born with their eyes open? Hares

105. A rabbit's teeth grow continuously, how does a normal rabbit file them down? By chewing

106. Describe flyback. A coat of fur which flies back to its smooth normal position when stroked from the hindquarters to the shoulders

107. Describe rollback. A gradual return of the fur to its normal position when stroked from the hindquarters to the shoulders. A slightly slower return than a flyback

108. True or false, English lops have shorter ears than French lops? False

109. What word is used to describe a group of rabbits? A Herd

110. How often does a doe normally nurse her kits? Once or twice a day, sometimes more depending on how much milk she has

111. What percentage of rabbit is usable? about 93%

112. What causes wry neck? An infection in the middle or inner ear

113. What is the name of the book which the ARBA publishes which describes all the breeds or rabbits? The Standard of Perfection

114. Name three Dutch markings. Cheeks, Blaze, Neck, Hairline, Saddle, Undercut and Stops

115. What is the rear part of the rabbit called? Hindquarters

116. What breed has transparent guard hairs? Satin

117. How old are kits when they open their eyes? 7-10 days

118. Name three pointed breeds. Californian, Himalayan, Mini Californian- all others are only

varieties

119. During colder months how should you adjust your rabbit's food? By increasing it
120. What do you check when checking the toenails? Mismatched toenails, wrong colored toenails, broken or missing toenails
121. What is the difference between satin and normal fur? Satin fur has a smaller transparent hair shaft creating a sheen on the coat
122. Name three important considerations when buying or building a nest box? Sanitation, Size, Protection from weather, Keep babies from falling out
123. What is a mutation? Changes that take place in a gene that causes it to express itself in a different way from the original gene. Most mutations are recessive to the original and many are lethal. An example of a mutation is the Rex and Satin fur.
124. What is the undercoat? the finer fur next to the skin
125. What are the six rabbit body types? Semi-Arched, Full-Arch, Compact, Commercial, Cylindrical, Upright Cylindrical/Mandolin
126. Where are the rabbit's sweat glands located? underside of the front paws
127. True or false, the quality of the fur is determined by touch? True
128. Name the condition characterized by scabby, open sores on the bottom of a rabbit's hocks or paws. Sore hocks
129. True or False; Dirty, broken, or rusty cage floor can cause sore hocks? True
130. What are the discoloration or stains on the rabbit's coat that are caused by urine, manure, or rust called? Hutch stains
131. What is a purebred rabbit? One produced by successive mating of the same breed of rabbit
132. What is a crossbred rabbit? One produced by the mating of different breeds of rabbit
133. True or false, rabbits are rodents? False, rabbits are lagomorphs
134. What is a dewclaw? The extra toe, or functionless digit on the inside of the front paw
135. What is a pelt? The hide after it's been removed from the animal
136. True or false, all disqualifications are permanent and are not fixable? False, underweight and overweight can be fixed
137. True or false, you must be a 4H member to show in open class? False
138. How do you treat sore hocks? Clean cage, feel along bottom and repair any damaged or rough sections, give a clean board for rabbit to sit on, remove hair from sores, rinse with hydrogen peroxide and then apply Preparation H
139. What is a broken coat? Guard hair is broken or missing in spots exposing the undercoat – showing the effects of molt
140. In larger breeds what is the age of an intermediate rabbit? Six to eight months of age
141. In smaller breeds what is the age of a senior rabbit? Over six months of age
142. In breeds with senior weights over 9 lbs, what is the age of a Senior rabbit? over eight months of age
143. What is the difference between a disqualification and elimination? In most cases an elimination (fault) can be fixed, whereas a Disqualification (usually) cannot.
144. The overall physical state of a rabbit in relation to its health, cleanliness, fur, and grooming is called what? condition

145. Separating the doe and the young so that the young can no longer nurse is called what? weaning

146. What is the 4H motto? To make the best better

147. In a type show, what do you call entries of two or more rabbits of the same breed, variety, age and sex? class

148. What three parts of a rabbit make -up the hindquarter? hips, loins, and rump

149. Using a doe to nurse young, other than her own, is called what? Fostering

150. List 6 general disqualifications found in all breeds. 1. Abnormal eye discharge, conjunctivitis, 2. Abscesses 3. Blindness 4. Colds 5. Ear canker 6. Entry: wrong sex, breed, group or variety as entered 7. Eyes: unmatched eyes, wall eyes, off colored eyes, spots or specks on eye, marbled eyes 8. Fleas 9. Fungus growth 10. Fur: foreign colored hairs within the coat 11. Lice 12. Mange or scurvy condition-with flakes 13. Mites 14. Pot belly 15. Rupture or hernia 16. Slobbers 17. Sore hocks 18. Tattoo: illegible or wrong 19. Tumors or abnormal swelling 20. Vent disease 21. Any deviation from the normal body structure, including, wry tail, extra toes, missing toes, malocclusions, crooked legs, pigeon chest, split penis, missing testicle, torn ears, over or under weight

151. What are the three colors of a tri? 1) Orange black and white

2) Blue fawn and white 3) Chocolate and white (non showable)

4) Lilac Fawn and white(non showable)

152. What is a dead tail? Is it a dq? Loss of circulation to the tail. A fault unless it's unaligned.

153. What color has no distinct pattern. Solid

154. What breed can be disqualified for a bald spot. Dutch

155. Only breed with standing fur. Silver fox

156. Two varieties of Belgian hare. Rufus and tan.

157. Minimum numbers of spots on either side of an English Spot? One

158. How many chromosomes does a rabbit have? 44 (or 22 pairs)

159. What are pea spots? Two spots of marking color at the inside base of the ears in Tan, Marten and otter patterned or colored breeds.

160. What kind of a stomach does a rabbit have? Monogastric

161. Name two breeds that pose full arch but aren't breeds that run the tables? Chinchilla and Flemish Giant

162. How many ribs does a rabbit have? 26

163. A dewlap is a dq on how many breeds? 7 (Netherland Dwarf, Dwarf Hotot, Silver, Brit, Tan, Himi, Polish)

164. Name 5 breeds with a dq for ear length. English Lop, Netherland Dwarf, Polish, Mini Rex, Brit.

165. What are the last 2 breeds to be accepted by ARBA? Blue Holicer & Mini Californian

166. What's the Latin name for a rabbit? *Oryctolagus cuniculus*

167. What breed has no "breed" DQs just faults? Florida White