

Snuffles	<p>This disease is one of the most common illnesses in rabbits. Also called Pasteurellosis, it is caused by bacteria that are transmitted from doe to litter or between breeding rabbits. The most common problem caused by this disease is a respiratory condition, although the nose, eyes, and other areas of the body can also be affected. The disease can become chronic or lead to death if untreated or improperly treated. This is contagious.</p>
Cold	<p>Similar to the human version, and is a general term used to describe such symptoms as runny nose, runny eyes, and sneezing. Unlike the human version, in rabbits it is usually called by bacteria rather than a virus, and can be treated with antibiotics. Some bacterial infections may lead to a much more serious respiratory illness, rabbit pneumonia, which in turn can lead to death. This is contagious.</p>
Wryneck	<p>A condition also called torticollis (twisting of the neck), which can cause head shaking, head scratching, or loss of balance. This is contagious.</p>
Ringworm	<p>A fungal condition that is transmitted easily through contact with an infected rabbit's coat or living quarters. It usually causes multiple hairless areas with slightly reddened skin around the head, ears, and forelimbs. These hairless areas are often covered with a slight or sometimes heavy crust. It can be transmitted to humans. The spores from the fungus can live in an animal's environment for more than 18 months. This is contagious.</p>

Ear Mite Infestation	<p>Also called ear canker or ear mange. They are external parasites that cause a build up of a brown crusty material near that rabbit's ear canal. The area usually becomes very raw and irritated. This is contagious.</p>
Cheyletiella Mange	<p>Also called walking dandruff. This parasitic infestation of the skin, also caused by mites, often goes unnoticed by owners, especially during the early stages. If the condition worsens, there will be an accumulation of what looks like dandruff within the rabbit's fur and the animal may lose clumps of hair. This is caused by mites and is contagious.</p>
Flea Infestation	<p>External parasites that can infest pet rabbits. You can use a specific comb to reveal the presence of the parasites or their waste products. They feed on blood and can cause anemia if present in large numbers. Over-the-counter control treatments and special soaps are available to treat an infestation, but it is recommended you first consult a veterinarian. This is contagious.</p>
Coccidiosis	<p>A parasitic illness caused by a protozoan (a one-celled organism) that affects the rabbit's liver or intestines. Rabbits can become infected if they consume food or water that is contaminated with feces from an infected rabbit. If coccidiosis infects the liver, symptoms could be a loss of appetite, diarrhea, and even death. If located in the intestines, symptoms include weight loss, soft or watery feces, mucus or blood in feces, a soiled anal area, dehydration, increased thirst, and possibly death. Occasionally, this parasite may also infect the nasal passages and cause a respiratory disease called nasal coccidiosis. This is contagious.</p>

Abscesses	<p>A collection of pus that may form at the site of a bacterial or parasitic infection. In rabbits, they often form at the site of a wound that has gone untreated. They should be treated by a veterinarian. These are not contagious.</p>
Hairballs	<p>Rabbits groom themselves by licking their fur and they will swallow hair in the process. This results in balls in their stomach. Unfortunately, a rabbit will not be able to cough these up, and it will remain in the stomach. It can grow to a significant size. Initial signs include a rabbit's unwillingness to eat pellets and preference to eat more greens and treats. Later signs include loss of appetite, smaller fecal pellets passing, weakness, weight loss, and eventually death from starvation. To help prevent, brush your rabbit's fur daily. These are not contagious.</p>
Sore hocks	<p>Infected wounds that develop on the bottom of a rabbit's feet. They can be caused by frequent thumping of the rear feet when frightened, excessive body weight, lack of movement, pressure or abrasions from improper cage flooring, or chronic contact with soiled bedding. You can help prevent sore hocks by providing a smooth surface for your rabbit to stand on in its cage and keeping its cage clean and dry.</p>
Malocclusion	<p>Also called buck teeth or dental disease. Improper alignment of a rabbit's teeth brought on by abnormal tooth growth and wear. It usually results in overgrown teeth, particularly the incisors. Rabbits' teeth grow continuously, and it is very important that they eat hard foods in order to maintain a perfect bite. Signs include a rabbit's failure to chew or swallow food properly and heavy salivation. It will prevent the rabbit from eating because the teeth will grow so long that they lose the ability to chew. This is not contagious.</p>

Overgrown Claws	<p>Can hurt both the rabbit and the owner. They can easily become caught in objects such as cage flooring or your clothing, causing pain to the rabbit, or a panicked rabbit can scratch and injure itself. It is important to have a rabbit's claws clipped. Declawing a rabbit is not recommended. This is not contagious.</p>
Heat stress	<p>Also known as heat stroke. Rabbits can get it if the rabbit is in an environment that is over 85 degrees Fahrenheit or if they are exposed to a combination of high heat and high humidity. Rabbits can also experience heat stroke if there is inadequate shade or ventilation. Housing many rabbits together can also contribute to heat stroke. Signs include excessive panting and salivation, ears turning red, weakness, and refusal to move. Heat stroke can cause death. Adequate shade from the sun, proper ventilation, and an abundance of cool, fresh water can help prevent heat stroke. This is not contagious.</p>
Mucoid enteritis	<p>This is a type of diarrhea that is influenced by nutrition. Signs include dehydration, bloating of the abdomen, and a jelly-like secretion in the feces. Rabbits with severe enteritis produce a sloshing noise in the stomach when shaken. Stress and overcrowded areas play a major part in the triggering outbreaks. To prevent, provide a feed that is high in fiber and low in protein along with regular feedings of long-stem hay. Discuss rations with your veterinarian. This is not contagious.</p>