

# Rabbit Behavior

## **The rabbit is licking you:**

A sign of acceptance, your rabbit loves you!

## **Scattering droppings:**

Marking its territory, and could also be a way to find its way back.

## **Rubbing its chin on objects or humans:**

Marking of territory, the rabbit has scent glands under its chin.

## **A soft nudge with its nose:**

The rabbit way of saying hello. If you pass a rabbit without saying hello, you are breaking rabbit etiquette.

## **A harder nudge with its nose:**

The rabbit is telling you you're in its way, or it wants to be left alone.

## **Grunting:**

A sign that the rabbit is about to attack; this is a rabbit growling at you. Consider it a warning.

## **The rabbit tips over on its back or side:**

The rabbit feels safe and is very relaxed.

## **The 'brooding hen' position, or laying with its hind legs stretched out:**

The rabbit is relaxing and napping, but will wake up at any disturbance.

## **The rabbit is laying flat on the ground, ears backwards and eyes wide open:**

Something has scared the rabbit and it's trying to be invisible and ready to flee - Or it is bowing to its master.

## **The rabbit lunges forward with ears flattened backwards:**

Defending its territory, can happen i.e. if you put your hand in its cage.

**Rapidly vibrating nose:** The rabbit is scared, insecure or alert.

**Standing on its hind legs:** Curious rabbit, that wants to get an overview.

**Twitching tail:** The rabbit is preparing to spray urine.

**Tail held high:** The rabbit is excited, from a different rabbit present, or a new toy.

**Jumping and kicking in the air, often while shaking its head:** The rabbit is happy and playful. Often referred to as a "binky".

## **Kicking with its hind legs:**

Kicking straight backwards is a protest, kicking to the side happens during play and fighting.

**Dancing:** Rabbits dance of love is when they run circles around you.

**Purring:** Rabbits can make purring noise by grinding their teeth.

If you have a purring rabbit, you have a happy rabbit.

**Thumping:** Rabbits thump their hind feet to signal danger or to let you know they are not pleased