

Grooming - Activity Option 3



Contact a local animal shelter that takes in rabbits. Offer to volunteer your time to groom their rabbits. You may ask the shelter if they have any of the materials that you will need available. If you need to present them with a grooming plan you may use this the following page as an outline to explain how you will groom the animals. This [Rabbit Shelter List](#) might help you find local shelters. Complete the information below and include a picture of yourself volunteering at the shelter.

Shelter name:

Volunteer date:

Address:

Phone #:

Summarize your experience:



Grooming Plan

You will need:

- Brushes/ combs
- Baby oil/ olive oil
- Dropper
- Antiseptic spray
- Nail clipper
- Soft cloths (these could be cotton rags)
- Rubbing alcohol and paper towels or alcohol wipes
- Optional: Heavy duty gloves for your protection, a treat for the bunnies!

Sanitation: If you will be grooming more than one rabbit be sure to thoroughly clean out your equipment EACH time you groom a rabbit. You can rub your equipment down with an alcohol wipe or paper towel soaked in rubbing alcohol. This will remove most illness causing organisms that can be transferred between rabbits.

Brushing: You will use either a comb or a brush to brush the rabbits, depending on the fur/wool of the rabbit. Be gentle and stroke in the same direction as the hair growth. DO NOT pull knots carefully untangle them with your brush/comb or ask permission to cut them out with a pair of scissors.

Ears: One of the most common illnesses that affects rabbits is ear mites. You can help prevent ear mites by placing 3-4 drops of oil in a rabbit's ears each month. You can clean the ears by moistening a cotton cloth with oil and gently wiping the inside of the ear. This will clean and moisturize the ear.

Nails: Rabbits will need to have their nails trimmed as they get older. You can clip their nails using a nail clipper of your choice. When you do so make sure to have a secure grip on the rabbit and not to cut past the quick. In case you have an accident and cut too much, you can use an antiseptic spray on the nail.



Reflect/ Apply Questions

1. What are the benefits of grooming a rabbit?
2. What did you learn from your experience?
3. How does donating your time make a difference in these rabbits' lives?
4. Is this something that you will do again? Why?

