



## Rabbits IOI

- Rabbits are intelligent social animals who live in large groups in the wild. They love to play and groom one another.
- In the wild rabbits live in warrens of complex underground tunnels. Although they can live up to 12 years, the average is less than one year on fur and meat farms.
- Rabbits should be kept in pairs because companionship is the key to a rabbit's happiness. Without a friend, loneliness and boredom ensue.
- Rabbits, though quiet, communicate with different vocal sounds such as a low humming which shows affection.
- Rabbits are gentle and timid. In the Chinese Zodiac, rabbits represent tenderness, sensitivity, compassion...
- In the wild, rabbits are constantly occupied, from foraging to territorial maintenance and defense. Captive rabbits, however, lack stimulation, leading to health and behavioural abnormalities.

## Fashion with Compassion



Genuine



Fake Fur

Test	Genuine	Fake Fur
<b>FEEL</b> Feel the difference by rolling the hairs between finger and thumb.	Feels smooth and soft, easily rolls between the fingers.	Feels courser, but some fake furs are very soft and much like the real thing.
<b>LOOK</b> Blow on the hairs so you can see the under layer.	Made up of several layers of thin, almost curly hairs which form a dense furry under-wool. Often the longer, thicker hairs stick out and sometimes have a different colour at the bottom. The base is animal skin.	Has a simpler structure with individual hairs often having the same length, thickness and colour. The base is fabric.
<b>PIERCE</b> Part the fur with your fingers and push on the base with a pin.	The fur is attached to a leather base and resists the pin so that it is hard to push through.	Has a fabric base that you can identify from its mesh or threaded appearance. It easily let the pin go through.
<b>BURN</b> Carefully pull a few hairs from the fur and hold them to a flame above a non-flammable surface.	Singes and smells like a human hair.	Melts like plastic and smells like burnt plastic. It forms small plastic balls at the end that feel hard between finger and thumb.



There is nothing sexy or beautiful about wearing fur - so now it's time to give them back to the animals! Real fur in all clothing forms (coats, stoles, capes and hats) can be donated to Snuggle Coats for use in rehabilitation of injured and rescued animals.

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# FUR IS DEAD



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The mesh floor and lack of exercise due to confinement causes infections and abscesses.

Image above credited to Freedom For Farmed Rabbits



Rabbits' fur is violently ripped out of their skin while they're fully conscious and screaming in pain. They endure this torture every three months on angora fur farms.

Image above credited to PETA ASIA



Rabbits usually go into shock and are unable to move when returned to cages.

Image above credited to PETA ASIA



Image above credited to PETA Asia

The rabbit fur industry is the largest and fastest growing due to the low production costs worldwide. Rabbits are the least protected by animal welfare laws in virtually every country. China, the largest producer of rabbits, has no laws regulating the transport, caging, or killing of these animals.

- Rabbits are confined to bare wire cages covered in urine and faeces with little space to move. Caged rabbits commonly develop physical and behavioural problems, such as spine deformations and over-plucking of ones own fur. Most rabbits are kept outside in extreme weather conditions.
- Rabbits are often slaughtered at six months old. Others are kept for breeding. Mothers are kept away from their babies and only allowed to see them for nursing. Often, stressed females eat their young.
- Cages for single rabbits have the floor space of about two shoeboxes. Cages with groups of up to 12 rabbits may only be up to a third larger.



Image above credited to Humane Society International

- Broken bones and traumatic lesions are common due to poor handling. Rabbits often die en route to slaughter due to their tightly packed environment in which sickness and poor ventilation ensue.
- Slaughter methods include slitting of throats, bludgeoning, and stunning. Many are still alive as they are bled to death and skinned while being hung upside down.
- There is very little known about the exact number of rabbits slaughtered each year but as activists continue to investigate this horrible industry, the inherent cruelty is exposed. UN has estimated over 1 billion rabbits are killed each year for fur alone.



Image above credited to PETA