CHECK THE FEET

Early signs of sore hocks in rabbits



Sore hocks (pododermatitis) are a pressure-related foot problem caused by ongoing pressure on the bottoms of the feet.

What is normal?

- Pale pink calluses can be normal if covered by fur
- Your rabbit should be comfortable and moving normally

Warning signs

- Hair loss or thinning fur over the hocks
- Red, raw, or inflamed skin
- Scabs, open sores, or oozing
- Pain, limping, or reluctance to move

Causes + what helps

• Hard or wire surfaces	⇨	Provide soft, flat resting areas
• Rough or abrasive rugs	⇨	Use soft fleece or cushioned surfaces
• Damp or dirty housing	⇨	Keep the area clean and dry
• Overgrown nails	⇨	Trim nails regularly
• Obesity or inactivity	⇨	Support healthy weight and movement

Note: Some breeds, such as Rex rabbits, may be more prone to thinning fur on the hocks

Call a rabbit-savvy vet if:

- Skin is raw, swollen, or worsening
- There are open sores, oozing, or signs of infection
- Your rabbit appears painful or has trouble moving



Best treatment: prevention + early action