

**DOWN THE
RABBIT HOLES**

Bunny Tears



This is Lola, she is an albino New Zealand rabbit breed. This breed is mostly used for cosmetic testing and scientific research. Do not let the likes of Lola live and die brutally for vanity, when so many cruelty free options exist. Rabbits like Lola are intensively farmed then sold to the lab, where they endure extreme and painful testing and sometimes live dissection. They are then killed. You can help rabbits like Lola by pledging to go cruelty free.

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Many beauty products often test their products on animals to observe any of the detrimental side effects that may arise before being allowed for human use. In most cases the rabbits are bred in factory farmed conditions, then sold to labs, where they are often housed in isolation, in bare, wire cages without sufficient space to move or environmental enrichment.

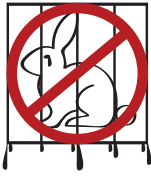


The main test conducted on rabbits in cosmetic and product testing is called a Draize test and has been around since the 1940s. The Draize test involves applying an amount of the substance under study to an animal's eye or skin for several hours, and then observing whether or not irritation occurs over the following week or two. Test animals are then put to death.



In the eye version of the Draize test, rabbits are placed in restraining stocks and their eyelids are held open with clips—in some cases for days at a time—to keep them from blinking away the test solutions. Rabbits have no tear ducts so, unlike humans, they can't cry out harmful substances from their eye. This means that in the Draize eye test the rabbit's eye is exposed to more of the test chemical for longer periods, which is one of the main reasons why rabbits are chosen for this procedure.





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Draize skin test:



The skin test involves shaving a part of the rabbit's body and applying a test substance to their skin. The site is covered with a gauze patch for up to four hours, after which the patch is removed and the remaining substance wiped away. A wound is allowed to develop at the site for up to 14 days, and the degree of skin

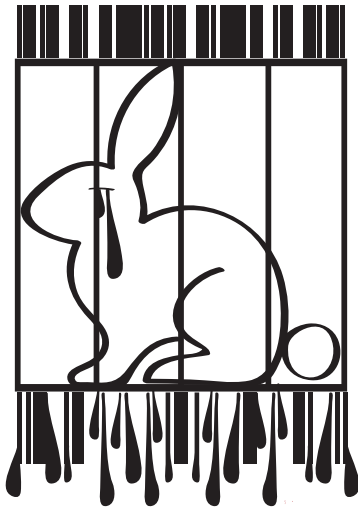


damage is then assessed. The test may cause rabbits to suffer from inflamed skin, ulcers, bleeding, and bloody scabs. There is no requirement that animals be provided with pain-relieving drugs during this prolonged process. Animal-based skin irritation studies have never been properly validated.



Rabbits, amongst many other animals, are also used in research and vivisection. Those animals are subjected to variant degrees of pain and stress during scientific procedures. In addition, they are kept in unnatural environments all their lives. Many people think that all animal research is part of medical research – this is not true. There are many leading Universities and research organisations striving to show that alternatives are now possible without experimenting on animals. According to the American Anti-vivisection Society, rabbits are used in experimentation due to the practical reasons rather than scientific. Rabbits are small and docile, they can be restrained easily. They are cheap and easy to breed.

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The ingredient of cosmetics and testing

There are a great number of successful companies that are against animal testing, and use cruelty free products that have not been tested on animals. You can find more information at

www.gocrueltyfree.org

For a full list of approved cruelty free companies in Australia visit:

www.choosecrueltyfree.org.au/

For the full list of cruelty free products visit:

www.leapingbunny.org/guide/brands/list



For alternatives to animal research and to understand the animal models' relevance to humans, visit:
www.humaneresearch.org.au
www.pcrm.org/research/animaltestalt

For more information contact: info@downtherabbitholes.org
www.downtherabbitholes.org/bunny-tears/