Your Neighborhood Pet Store Since 1991

Cockatiel

Scientific Name: Nymphicus Hollandicus

Brief Description:

Very cute, intelligent and highly social is how we would describe the Cockatiel. This little bird will want to spend as much time with it's human flock mates as possible. They want nothing more than to whistle, play and ride on your shoulder. Take a little time for training and you'll have a great pet.



Average Size: Approximately seven inches in length

Life Span: Fifteen-to-twenty years, with proper care

Feeding:

- Pelleted diets are recommended and should consist of sixty-to-seventy percent of its
- Cockatiel can be converted to pellets, gradually.
- Provide fresh pellets or seeds at all times.
- Provide fresh, clean, chlorine-free water at all times.
- Provide fresh fruits and vegetables, daily.
 - o Apple slices, grated carrots, raw broccoli and green leafy vegetables.
- Cockatiel appreciates quality and variety in their food.
- Discard uneaten food before it spoils.

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Housing:

- Housing enclosure dimensions should be at least twenty-four inches in width, by twenty-four inches in diameter, by twenty-four inches in height.
- Metal bars spaces no grater than five-eights of an inch apart.
- Provide the largest habitat possible for your pet.
- Perches should be at least four inches long and half-inch in diameter.
 - o Ideally your pet should be able to wrap its foot three-quarters of the way around.
- A number of perch sizes is suggested to help exercise, and prevent arthritis.
- Provide a metal grate, over the droppings tray.
- Paper or appropriate substrate for easier cleaning.
- Do not place food or water over perches.

Maintenance:

- Your Cockatiel will require bathing from time-to-time.
 - o Provide lukewarm, filtered and chlorine-free water.
 - o Remove the water when done.
 - o Mist your bird with water or grooming spray as an alternative.
- Nails should be trimmed to prevent injury to your bird.
- Clean and disinfect care and perches on a regular basis.
- -Replace substrate or cage liner, weekly or on an as needed basis.
- Replace food and water, daily.
 - Always wash your hands after handling your pet bird or cage.

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Temperautres:

- Birds acclimate well to average household temperatures.
- Avoid extreme temperature changes.
- Place cage off floor and away from drafts.



Lighting: Well lit rooms.

Water & Accessories:

Petware House

- Install a bird bath, food and water dishes and a variety of perches.
- Include a variety of toys for your pet.
- Provide treats and grit.

Reproductive:

- Cockatiels are fairly easy to breed.
- Ensure ambient environment temperatures remain at seventy-to-eighty ^of.
- Nesting box should be provided
 - o A good nesting size is approximately twelve inches, by twelve inches.
- Female will lay eggs within three weeks of mating.
- Clutch size is typically four to six eggs.



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Reproductive: (con't)

- Incubation is approximately twenty-days.
- Babies should be left with parents for two weeks before handling.



Notes and Comments:

Cockatiels love to chew!! Provide them with plenty of shreddable toys made from palm and rafia strips, twig balls and safe, vegetable tanned leather strips. They love wooden toys just like the big birds when they are appropriately sized.

Most cockatiels love to bathe. It removes debris from the feathers and keeps their skin from becoming dry and itchy.

Your cockatiel will need ten-to-twelve hours of undisturbed sleep every night. Unfortunately, most cockatiels, at one point or another, experience episodes of terror in their cage referred to as "night frights".