



New Bird Care Instructions

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Caring for your new baby

Congratulations on taking home your new pet companion. Preparing to bring your new feathered friend home can be a very exciting time for you and your family. In order to ensure that your new companion stays happy, safe and healthy it is very important for you to follow these instructions and any instructions that your vet may provide. Please keep in mind that this document is for educational purposes only.

Cage for your Bird

It is important to have the right setup for your new bird friend. Be sure to provide a cage that is safe and adequate in size. Most small to medium size birds require 20-30 inches wide cage. We recommend a large wrought iron cage with a playtop that can easily be found on Amazon.

Perches

Choose several different appropriate length and diameter perches to arrange inside the cage. Select a few different “bird safe” toys to decorate your pet’s home with. Perches should be replaced every so often once they become soiled or destroyed.

Following are recommendations for perches:

- Toe nail grinding rough surface perch (must add another one for comfort)
- Natural wood perch for small birds
- Comfy perch for birds

Keep in mind that Green Cheek Conures like to sleep at the highest possible perch. Be careful not to position the perch over food or water trays. Avoid perches all the way in the back of the cage, leave enough room for the tail to stay in the cage. Avoid any kind of “nest house” for night time sleeping.

Toys

Birds need an adequate number of fun toys in their cage to keep them entertained and busy. However, don’t get carried away with lots of toys and clutter the cage. Our suggestion is to keep 3-4 toys including ladders and ropes. We also suggest that you rotate their toys every 30 days to keep them entertained. When getting the toys, make sure that they are ‘bird safe’.

Interaction & Social Times

- A bird left in isolation without affection and attention will have a poorly developed sense of security or belonging.
- Establish fun rituals to enjoy with your bird everyday. These could be interactive games, singing songs, greetings and goodbyes.
- Acknowledge and respond to your bird's contact calls to reassure him when you are in other parts of the house.
- When you take your baby home, let the bird get settled down and acclimated to a new place. Next day start interacting with 20 mins at a time of direct interaction.
- Your bird may feel a little insecure at first in the new house. Cuddles, snuggles and head scratches are great ways to make your bird comfortable.
- Don't rush into teaching your bird to step up on your finger. Be sure to gain trust of your bird first.

Sleep

- Parrots need at least 10-12 hours of uninterrupted sleep. In the wild, parrots usually sleep from sunset to sunrise, roughly 12 hours.
- Parrots can start to have terrible behavior like napping, biting, screaming, feather plucking and not wanting to socialize if they are sleep deprived.
- During the night, it is really important to put your bird in a room that's undistributed with minimum light. You may also use a cover for extra comfort.
- You may play soft music during rainy or stormy nights to prevent "night frights".

Bath

- Bathing will help soften dirt or food on the feathers and skin and also encourage preening (self cleaning)
- In the summer, it's recommended to offer water for your bird to self bath a few times a week. During cooler months you may consider minimizing bathing.
- Never use soap on your bird unless recommended by a vet.
- Allow your bird to self dry. Never use a hair dryer to dry your bird.

Hygiene

A daily cleaning of the cage floor and bowls helps to prevent problems with food spoilage and permits the owner to inspect the cage floor. A weekly thorough cleaning of the cage is suggested. You can use shipping paper or paper towels as liner for the cage bottom tray. Do not use cat litter as it contains deodorizer that may be harmful for birds.

Vet Visit

It is important to establish a relationship with a qualified vet that of your preference. Once you take your new bird home, it is important to do a well

Food and Nutrients

Dallas Parrots have completed a great amount of research on food and pellets and proudly feed our babies very high nutrients that are essentials for their growth.

Following is our suggestion for pellets:

- RoudyBush Breeder, Crumble (for 45 Days)
- RoudyBush Maintenance, Crumble (after 45 days)

Sample Fruits List

All fruits have high energy and should be offered as a treat. Incorporate more greens.

- Apple
- Apricot
- Banana
- Coconut
- Grape
- Guava
- Blueberry
- Honeydew
- Kiwi
- Lychee
- Mango (peeled)
- Papaya (limited)
- Raspberries
- Cranberry
- Persimmon (limited)
- Pineapple
- Plum
- Watermelon
- Strawberry
- Mulberry

Veggies (*medium energy & **high energy)

- Broccoli
- Brussel Sprouts
- Cabbage
- Bell Pepper
- Cauliflower
- Chard
- Snow Peas
- Sprout
- Celery
- Beetroot*
- Carrot*
- Pumpkin Flesh*
- Squash*
- Sweet Potato*
- Corn**
- Peas**
- Beans**
- Legumes**
- Pumpkin Seeds

Grains and legumes

- Cooked Brown & White Rice
- Quinoa
- Wheat
- Barley
- Pasta
- Whole Wheat Bread
- Oats
- Couscous

Foods to AVOID

- Meat Products
- Sodas
- Onion
- Avocado
- Alcohol
- Chocolate / Cocoa
- Bread
- Crackers
- Fruit Pits
- Garlic
- Mushrooms
- Caffeine
- Dairy

Important Considerations

- It is important to offer “breeder” food for the first 30-45 days to compensate for the nutrients that juvenile baby losses during the weaning period.
- Do not add any minerals or supplements if you are giving your birds pallet food.
- A healthy well balanced diet for birds should consist of pallets, fruits, veggies, grains, sprouted seeds and 20% seeds.
- A diet based primarily on seeds is deficient in many nutrients, including vitamin A and calcium and is too high in fat.
- Keep in mind that birds can only eat about 15-20% of their body weight. Be careful not to force your bird into overeating.
- Berries are particularly rich in antioxidants, fiber and can help curb inflammation and act as natural plant based probiotics, particularly cranberries.

What is Chop

- Chop is simply the name for finely chopped salad or meshed that is made for birds to easily consume. It usually consists of a combination of low energy, high fiber veggies, fruits, legumes and grains.
- It is a great way to give your feathered friend a tasty, nutritious healthy variety of good things to supplement their diet.
- Make small batches, so no storage needed.

Harmful Household Items

- This is not an all inclusive list but rather a sample list. These items can cause instant death or are very lethal, if they are close enough to inhale any of the products.
- Pets birds have very fragile respiratory systems and they may die within minutes of coming in contact with birds hazardous materials.
- Extremely Harmful Chemicals:
 - Perfumes and Body Lotions
 - Insect Sprays and Glue Pads
 - Cleaning Chemical Products
 - Nail Polish and Hair Dyes
 - Scented Candles
 - Plug-ins
 - Air Freshners
 - Incense & Candles
 - Cigarette, Tobacco or Vape
 - Any sort of fumes

Product Recommendations

- Baby formula
https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0098B79XI/ref=cm_sw_r_cp_apa_fabt1_gOARFb033FPBY?_encoding=UTF8&psc=1
- Juvenile food for 2-3 months
https://www.amazon.com/dp/B00A3S6ELI/ref=cm_sw_r_cp_apa_fabt1_HPARFbB7P025B
- Ongoing Pallets food
https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0002GLX8U/ref=cm_sw_r_cp_apa_fabt1_sRARFbDBDZBPZ
- Comfy Perch
https://www.amazon.com/dp/B01EH6ELKW/ref=cm_sw_r_cp_apa_fabt1_RARFb49FF1WD
- Natural Wood Perch
https://www.amazon.com/dp/B07SWSTQYR/ref=cm_sw_r_cp_apa_fabt1_cTARFbN7RH796
- Rough Nail trimming perch
https://www.amazon.com/dp/B07VW7N5NF/ref=cm_sw_r_cp_apa_fabt1_ZTARFbD40YSTX

Hand Feeding Instructions for Baby Birds

- Your baby is a _____ Weeks old and needs to be fed 5-10 ml's 3 times a day
- Best times to feed your baby birds are 8am, 2pm and 8pm
- Formula should be mixed at the rate of 6ml of powder to 12 ml of hot water.
- I feed babies, Higgins Intune Hand Feeding High Energy For baby Macaw
- Temperature when feeding the baby should be between 105 - 110 degrees.
- Test the temperature to ensure that it is not too hot. I recommend using a thermometer.
- The formula should have the consistency of gravy, not too thick and not watery.
- Draw the formula in the syringe and drop the formula in the mouth of the baby. Allow the baby to swallow the formula and continue to drop formula in babies' mouth in a steady stream.
- Be sure to check and that crop is not already full before feeding more formula.
- Do not feed too hot , a baby cannot spit it out and it can be fatal.
- Be sure formula is not too cold, the baby can't digest cold formula
- Put the baby in its enclosure once fed. Do not play with the baby immediately after being fed.
- It is important that you call out babies' names and play with the baby at the time of feeding. This way baby will start accepting you as a companion
- It is important to play with your baby at times other than feeding times so your bird will not only associate getting attention with feedings.
- Once your baby is older than 5-6 weeks, you can start to offer small pellets, fruits and veggies.
- At about 8 weeks of age, when you see the baby is eating well and drinking on its own more you can start doing 2 feedings, 12 hours a part.
- At 9 weeks you baby can move to 1 feeding per day, as long as the baby is eating pellets and drinking water.
- At 10-12 weeks you should discontinue feeding your baby the formula. However, you must closely monitor your baby's eating and drinking habits.
- If the baby has hardened crop or food is not digesting after 8 hours, then you must visit an avian vet at once.

Warranty of Unweaned Babies

- Since we have no control of feeding or other factors that may be at play, we cannot guarantee hand feeding baby birds. All our birds are healthy, have been hand fed by us for several weeks before being available for sale to you.