

Bird Care Checklist

A pet bird care checklist covering cage, diet, cleaning, enrichment, health and home safety.

Cage & Housing

- ☐ Provide a cage large enough for full wing movement
Bigger is better; bar spacing must suit the species
- ☐ Add varied-diameter perches, including natural wood
- ☐ Place food and water bowls away from perches to avoid droppings
- ☐ Position the cage out of drafts and direct sun
- ☐ Include a quiet area for restful sleep

Diet & Feeding

- ☐ Offer a balanced base diet such as quality pellets
- ☐ Provide fresh, bird-safe vegetables daily
- ☐ Give fruit and seeds in moderation
- ☐ Supply clean, fresh water and refresh it daily
- ☐ Avoid toxic foods such as avocado, chocolate and caffeine
Confirm safe foods for your species with an avian vet

Cleaning Routine

- ☐ Change the cage liner daily
- ☐ Wash food and water bowls daily
- ☐ Clean perches and toys weekly
- ☐ Wipe down the cage and tray weekly
- ☐ Do a deep clean and disinfect periodically

Enrichment & Interaction

- ☐ Rotate a variety of safe, destructible toys
- ☐ Provide foraging toys to encourage natural behavior
- ☐ Allow supervised out-of-cage time in a safe room
- ☐ Spend daily time talking to and interacting with the bird
- ☐ Offer bathing opportunities such as a dish or misting

Health Monitoring

- ☐ Check droppings daily for changes in color or consistency
- ☐ Observe appetite, breathing and activity
- ☐ Watch for feather plucking or behavioral changes
- ☐ Weigh the bird regularly if possible
- ☐ Schedule routine avian veterinary check-ups

Home Safety

- ☐ Remove or avoid non-stick cookware fumes and aerosols
Overheated non-stick coatings can be fatal to birds
- ☐ Keep toxic plants and foods out of reach
- ☐ Cover or close windows to prevent collisions
- ☐ Keep other pets supervised and separated

☐ Bird-proof rooms before any out-of-cage time