

BABY COCKATIEL

CONGRATULATIONS on your new cockatiel. Your baby is between 6 and 10 weeks old. Your baby was hand feed at an early age so that it would be very friendly. It was weaned on a diet of fresh vitamin fortified cockatiel seed along with some fresh fruits and vegetables, also spray millet has been offered at all times. Your baby can eat anything you eat as long as he continues to eat a good balance of foods.

On his first night you should leave a night light on for your baby. You may want to limit him or her to one low perch. Be sure the food & water is within reach.

During the second week you'll want to begin giving your bird grit. A small amount placed in a separate feeding dish placed near a perch is all that is required. You'll want to begin offering some of the specialty seed to his diet. There is a wide variety on the market such as Honey Treat, Fruit & Veggie Mix, Grains & Greens and many more. Alternate these foods to add variety to your bird's diet.

After the third week you should place a bird protector on your bird's cage. This repels mites that will harm Your bird. Replace the bird protector every 90 days. Cage cleaner should be used during regular cleaning to prevent disease. You may want to select a bird bath. There are small tubs for inside the cage. Also available is a deluxe tub that hangs on the cage allowing the bird to bathe with less mess.

We recommend you keep your birds wings clipped. You can arrange for this at your local veterinarian.

When your bird is about six months old he or she will molt. Molting is a natural loss of feathers. Your bird will do this twice a Year. This is an EXTREMELY STRESSFUL time for your bird. You will want to add conditioning food to his diet along with plenty of calcium supplement (cuttlebone, mineral block and calcium grit). Be sure to avoid drafts. At no time, even during molting should bald places be visible. Bare patches means feather plucking. This is a serious condition and needs professional attention.

To avoid feather plucking offer a variety of bird toys. Brightly colored toys, balls, bells and mirrors will entertain your bird. Also your bird will need a hard wooden toy or lava stone to condition the beak. Avoid a mirror if you're trying to teach Your bird to talk. To prevent boredom rotate the toys. Boredom is the leading cause of feather plucking.

Again congratulations on Your new baby, we hope this will help answer your questions. Please feel free to call on us for additional information at our Auburndale nursery 863-967-1898.

THANKS

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