



COCKATIEL CARE GUIDE





WEIRO'S ARE NATIVE TO AUSTRALIA

**Cockatiels are also known as Weiro's.
They can live to a healthy age of 15 (Some
live up to 30 years old!)**

Cockatiels (aka Weiro's) are native to Australia and are a very intelligent and interactive bird, and perfect for even a beginner.

Weiro's do well on their own and with their own species. When kept on their own they will form a bond with their owner, and will require human company to entertain them. They can be taught tricks as well as having the ability to talk.

HOUSING

The size of your cage should be at least twice the size of your cockatiel's wingspan, a minimum of 60cm long, 60cm tall and 45cm wide. If you will be keeping more than one in the cage, increase the cage size accordingly.

Cockatiels are very playful birds, the larger the cage the more room they will have to move around freely.



TOYS

Cockatiels require toys to keep them entertained. Toys provide them with mental stimulation, without it you could experience unwanted behaviours such as feather plucking and screaming. Over time you will find that your bird may have preference to certain textures such as soft wood, cardboard or paper. It's important to provide your bird with a variety of toys with different textures and materials to prevent boredom.

TRAINING

Birds are extremely smart and are able to learn complex behaviours. With time and patience you are able to toilet train your bird, have them harness trained, teach them to spin, come when called, put money in a piggy bank and much more!



HEALTH

It is very important to make sure that your cockatiel has access to food and water at all times. Their diet should consist of either seeds or pellets, along with fruits, vegetables and nuts. Water should be refreshed daily and any seed husk should be removed.

Safe fruit and Vegetables include:

Apple, carrot, banana, capsicum, strawberry, watermelon, spinach, kale, celery, oranges and other citrus fruit, cherry, broccoli, chili, mango, peach and apricot.

*REMOVE ALL SEEDS AND PIPS BEFOREHAND!

WHY FEED PELLETS?

Bird pellets are scientifically formulated containing a ratio of seeds, grains, fruits, vegetables and other healthy ingredients to ensure your bird receives the right balance of proteins, fats, amino acids, vitamins and minerals that their species needs.

TOXIC FOODS

Alcohol, avocado and chocolate can kill birds. Other foods on the forbidden list are eggplant, cabbage, caffeine (tea and coffee), milk and cream, raw potato, and rhubarb (all parts, including the leaves).

HOW TO SEX A COCKATIEL

Male and female cockatiels are difficult to sex until after their first molt, approximately 6 - 9 months of age.

As a guide:

- males have slightly darker or brighter colorings on the face and orange cheek patches
- Any hint of barring, markings or spots on the underside of the tail feathers or wings when they are spread indicates a female.
- Male and females tend to have different personalities. Females are generally quieter, while males will sing more. Males will whistle and call, while females will screech.

