# **Cockatiels as Pets: A Comprehensive Care Guide**

Cockatiels are one of the most popular pet birds in the world. They are known for their beautiful plumage, their playful personalities, and their relatively easy care. If you are thinking about getting a cockatiel, it is important to do your research to make sure that you can provide the proper care for this special bird.



### **COCKATIEL AS PET COMPLETE CARE GUIDE:**

Cockatiel Bird Handbook by Nicki Truesdell

★ ★ ★ ★ 5 out of 5

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## **Choosing a Cockatiel**

When choosing a cockatiel, it is important to choose a bird that is healthy and well-socialized. You should also choose a bird that is the right size for your cage and your lifestyle.

Cockatiels come in a variety of colors and patterns. The most common color is gray, but you can also find cockatiels in white, yellow, and even

blue. Cockatiels also have a variety of crest feathers, which can be either straight or curled.

Cockatiels are social birds, so it is important to choose a bird that is well-socialized. A well-socialized cockatiel will be comfortable around people and will be less likely to bite or nip.

## **Cage Requirements**

Cockatiels need a cage that is large enough for them to move around comfortably. The cage should also have plenty of perches, toys, and a food and water dish.

The minimum cage size for a cockatiel is 24 inches long, 18 inches wide, and 18 inches high. However, a larger cage is always better. If you have the space, a cage that is 36 inches long, 24 inches wide, and 24 inches high is ideal.

The cage should be placed in a well-lit area that is free from drafts. The cage should also be placed at a height that is comfortable for you to interact with your bird.

#### **Diet**

Cockatiels are omnivores, which means that they eat both plants and animals. A healthy diet for a cockatiel includes a variety of fresh fruits, vegetables, seeds, and pellets.

Some good fruits and vegetables for cockatiels include:

Apples

Bananas **Berries** Carrots Celery Corn Grapes Leafy greens Mangoes Melons Oranges Papayas Peaches Pears Pineapple Strawberries Watermelons Some good seeds for cockatiels include: Canary seed

Flaxseed

Hemp seed

- Milo
- Niger seed
- Safflower seed
- Sunflower seeds

Some good pellets for cockatiels include:

- Harrison's Bird Diet
- Kaytee Exact Rainbow
- Mazuri Cockatiel Diet
- Roudybush Cockatiel Diet
- Tropican Cockatiel Diet

You should feed your cockatiel a variety of these foods each day. You should also offer your bird fresh water at all times.

## **Socialization**

Cockatiels are social birds, so it is important to provide them with plenty of socialization. You should spend time with your bird each day, talking to it, playing with it, and petting it.

You can also socialize your cockatiel by taking it to the pet store, the vet, or other places where it can interact with other birds and people.

## Grooming

Cockatiels need to be groomed regularly to keep their feathers healthy and clean. You should brush your bird's feathers once or twice a week. You should also trim your bird's nails and beak as needed.

### **Exercise**

Cockatiels need plenty of exercise to stay healthy. You should provide your bird with a variety of toys that it can play with. You should also allow your bird to fly outside of its cage for at least an hour each day.

#### Health

Cockatiels are generally healthy birds, but they can be susceptible to certain health problems, such as respiratory infections, feather plucking, and obesity.

If you are concerned about your cockatiel's health, you should take it to the vet for a checkup.

Cockatiels can make wonderful pets for people of all ages. They are beautiful, playful, and relatively easy to care for. If you are thinking about getting a cockatiel, be sure to do your research to make sure that you can provide the proper care for this special bird.



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