

CARING FOR YOUR CANARY



Essential information for your new pet

CHECKLIST

- High Quality Feed for Canaries
- Aviary or cage with plenty of room
- Cage cover for night time
- Grit to cover housing floor
- Perch
- Water and food dishes
- Bird bath
- Bird toys to keep your canary stimulated
- Cuttlefish or mineral treats for your canary's beak health and shape
- Worming treatment
- Mite and lice spray
- Pet safe disinfectant for cleaning housing
- Treats



NEED MORE PET CARE ADVICE?

Contact your local Pets Domain store and talk to our friendly staff.

STORE DETAILS

STORE:

PHONE:

ADDRESS:

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BASIC INFO

Canaries are beautiful and intelligent animals which makes for a wonderful companion and live for approximately 10 years, growing to 10-12cm on average. Canaries are easy to look after and don't require constant attention. They're solitary in nature and are happy living alone. Male Canaries are known for their singing, while females tend to chirp more.

Your canary will love interaction with you, by singing and chirping. They're not a 'hands on' type of bird compared to budgies or cockatiels however have sweet personalities and won't harm children or other pets.

FEEDING YOUR CANARY

It is vital that your canary gets the required nutrition for growth, health, and adult development. Choose a good quality bird seed or pellets to provide all the nutrients and vitamins required for healthy development, and assists in the prevention of disease. Feeding the right food throughout your canary's life will assist in fighting various health problems.

Provide cuttlefish or mineral stones at all times for your canary as it's a great source of calcium and helps with your canary's beak health and shape.

Grit is essential in your canary's diet to help breakdown seeds in it's gut, and help with egg shell formation when breeding.

Avoid feeding your canary avocados, fruit seeds, rhubarb, chocolate, onions, raw or dried beans, eggplants, cherries, beetroot, cabbage, and oxalis.

Always keep fresh water available for your canary and change daily.

AVIARIES & PERCHES

Canaries are usually housed in aviaries or cages, however, aviaries are the preferred housing option as they provide a lot more room for you canary to exercise. When choosing a cage, try and choose the biggest cage you can allow space for, and enough room for your canary to stretch it's wings and fly. Your canary shouldn't be able to fit it's head through the bars, and the cage should be strong enough so your bird won't be able to slip through the bars.

Canaries should not be housed with other breeds of birds, but multiple canaries is fine. However, two males should not share the same housing.

Make sure the aviary or cage is placed in a well ventilated area and away from any drafts and direct sunlight.

Cover the flooring of your canary's aviary with grit and clean the aviary at least once a week, including emptying and replacing the grit.

Most cages and aviaries come with a perch, but usually the perches are smooth so it's good to add a perch that is fairly rough to help nails from over growing and lesions forming on the skin. Perch covers and mineral perches are available from our stores.

TOYS & EXERCISE

It is important to provide your canary with toys and puzzles within their housing. As canaries are very intelligent animals, they need stimulation to keep them from boredom.

HEALTH

Canaries that live in aviaries should be wormed every three months, and inside canaries need to be wormed at least twice a year.

To prevent mites and lice, treat your canary every 6 weeks with a mite and lice spray. Spray your canary according to the instructions on the bottle, and on the cage and toys. Be sure to remove any food and water prior to treatment.

A healthy canary will have smooth, well groomed feathers, eat and drink regularly, be active, beak and feet look normal, bright, dry eyes, and dry nares.

Vet visits may be required when your canary is looking ill. Keep a close eye on your canary for any of the following symptoms: not eating, puffed up feathers, sleeping excessively, throwing up, abnormal droppings, sitting low or at the bottom of the aviary/cage, and discharge from nostrils, eyes or beak.

Common illnesses and diseases associated with canaries include:

- Malignant Tumors, Lymphomas, and Fatty Tumors. These may be cause from seed only diets, and can be benign or cancerous.
- Goiter is from a lack of iodine, and causes the thyroid gland to enlarge.
- Megabacteria is a large organism which causes a bird to lose it's strength, energy and appetite very quickly.