

Hummingbird Tips



Sugar Water Recipe

This recipe is recommended because the sugar ratio is similar to that found naturally in nectar plants.

- Offer small amounts of sugar water daily to avoid mold or spoilage.
- Remove feeders during heat waves.
- Clean feeders thoroughly between uses.

Ingredients

- **Sugar:** Use white, granulated sugar only.
- **Water:** clean, boiled water.

Amounts

1-part white granulated sugar | 4 parts clean, boiled water

- **Tiny Batch:** 1/8 cup sugar: 1/2 cup water
- **Small Batch:** 1/4 cup sugar: 1 cup water
- **Medium Batch:** 1/2 cup sugar: 2 cups water
- **Large Batch:** 1 cup sugar: 4 cups water

Instructions

- Bring water to gentle boil. Stir in sugar. Continue gentle boil for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Allow to cool to room temperature before filling feeder.
- Refrigerate leftovers in jar with tight lid for up to 5 days.





How to Clean Your Hummingbird Feeder

- Wash in mild soapy water and rinse thoroughly.
- Then disinfect in a solution of 4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water for at least one minute.
- Rinse and dry thoroughly before reuse.



NOTES:

- Hummingbirds find feeders by sight, not smell, and are attracted to the color red—the same color as some of their favorite nectar flowers.
- Avoid using any pesticides, herbicides or other similar chemicals that are toxic to birds and insects.
- Feeders do not interfere with migration. They simply offer supplemental nutrition. When birds are ready to migrate, they go.

Sugar Water Caution

• **Do not use** brown sugar, honey, sugar powders, red dyes or food coloring, artificial sweeteners, or organic, natural, or raw. These items can cause a range of problems including bird illness, toxic iron levels, rapid bacteria and fungi growth, and the potential spread of disease.