

Bird Home Care Checklist

Information for the Pet Bird Owner

- ◆ Is your bird's beak too long? If so, we recommend a trimming.
- ◆ Are your bird's toenails too long? If so, they need to be trimmed. Be careful as they bleed easily if cut too short. Have some styptic ready to stop the bleeding.
- ◆ When did your bird last molt? Birds regularly molt from one to three times a year. If your bird has not molted in this time period or always seems to be molting, a problem exists.
- ◆ Do you want your bird's wings clipped? This can be done regularly to minimize the chance of your bird flying away. Remember each time your bird molts, new feathers are regrown and need to be clipped again.
- ◆ Does your bird appear to be well groomed? Sometimes misting your bird with water will stimulate grooming.
- ◆ Does your bird's feathers appear normal? Abnormal feather growth or the lack of feathers can signify problems and should be examined. Some feather problems can be behavioral in nature and we can discuss with you.
- ◆ Are your bird's droppings normal? If not, your bird definitely needs to be examined. Changes in diet can cause the droppings to change color and consistency, but many diseases also cause dropping changes.
- ◆ What is your bird's diet? It should be a complete, balanced diet (homemade or pelleted) with a minimum of seeds. If your bird has a diet more than ten percent seeds, it needs to be changed.
- ◆ What is the environment for your bird? A large, spacious cage with a variety of perches and safe toys should be available. It should be clean and odor free.



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