

Daily Routine for Cockatiels & Galahs

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MORNING



Exercise

✓ Before releasing your bird for free flight in the home open the cage and ask him to step up onto your finger or hand. This is an important process in the daily routine to ensure your pet bird does not become shy of hands or develop a biting habit. Release your bird from its cage and allow supervised free flight whilst mixing supplements into the seed mix and drinking water. Exercise involves vigorous flight around the house and returning to your shoulder, head or cage. This is an ideal time to create learning situations involving clicker training and food rewards.

Breakfast

✓ Call your bird in for its morning meal. The seed mix is best provided in a dish on the floor of the cage as wild cockatiels and galahs are primarily ground feeders. For extra foraging stimulation camouflage the seed under fresh eucalypt or acacia leaves.

What to Provide

Supervised free flight

Clicker training & interaction

Morning meal

Set up foraging treats (millet sprays & seed treats)

Seed dish may remain in the cage during the day

Toys for each day (e.g. mirrors)

Fresh branches

Supervised free flight

Clicker training

Games, singing & dancing exercise

Shared meal with humans

Social interaction

Remove all food from cage

Cover cage & give bedtime treat

DAY TIME

Return to cage for foraging/rest

✓ Cockatiels and Galahs should not spend unsupervised time outside the cage. Fresh branches are provided for chewing activities and camouflaged treats encourage foraging activity and entertainment.



✓ In the wild, this is a time when these birds rest quietly in trees with family members. When at home during the day this is an ideal bonding time when your bird will enjoy sitting on your shoulder or may like to have a waterspray shower on a hot day (See Charlie Smith's photo below).

Exercise & Training

✓ Towards sunset release your bird from its cage and allow supervised free flight. Play games, talk or sing with your bird as you prepare the evening meal as this is a natural time for learning.

Dinner

✓ Remove any remaining seed treats and millet sprays from the cage and call your bird in for a shared evening meal. Place the cage (with seed dish on the cage floor) or your bird's feed station alongside the family dinner table and eat your evening meal at the same time.

Evening Socialising

✓ Following the evening meal is a good time to rest and relax with your bird. Evening socialising involves talking and interacting quietly with your bird and "winding down" for the day. Cockatiels and Galahs enjoy sitting on your shoulder at this time.



Charlie Smith enjoying a bath

Roosting/Bedtime

✓ Remove all foodstuff from the cage and implement nightly bedtime routine.

EVENING

For the clients of Carlingford Animal Hospital
www.birdhealth.com.au