

BIRDS

A GUIDE TO HOUSING AND DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

Please find below a list of the most common birds that come into care for each group of birds. We have given the minimum size aviaries required for caring for these species. Also, there is a list of their natural diet, which must make up part of their diet each day. Also listed is the frequency of feeding required for adults and babies of each species. Please look through the list and let the relevant co-ordinators know which species you would be in a position to care for. We would be happy for carers without aviaries to care for babies and then pass them on when they need to be housed in an aviary.

TYPE	SPECIES	HOW OFTEN TO FEED		SIZE OF AVIARY OR CAGE			NATURAL DIET
		ADULTS	BABIES	ADULTS	BABIES	R&R (1, 2)	
				Pre-release (4)	Fledged (3)		
DUCKS	Ducks	2 x Day	2-3 x Day	2 x 3 Metres. Must be on grass.	Tiny Babies 1 x 0.50 Metres. From 3 Weeks 2 x 1 Metres. Must be on grass.	2 x 3 Metres	Grass, Aquatic Insects and Weeds.
CARNIVORES	Kookaburra	2 x Day	Every 2 Hrs	2 x 5 Metres	1.5 X 1.5 Metres	1.5 X 1.5 Metres	Spiders, Lizards, Snakes, Grasshoppers, Worms, Cicadas, Beetles.
	Crows	2 x Day	Every 2 Hrs	7 x 2 Metres	3 x 3 Metres	3 x 3 Metres	Spiders, Lizards, Snakes, Grasshoppers, Worms, Cicadas, Beetles.
	Magpie	2 x Day	Every 1/2 Hr	5 x 2 Metres	3 x 2 Metres	3 x 2 Metres	Spiders, Lizards, Snakes, Grasshoppers, Worms, Cicadas, Beetles.
	Butcherbird	2 x Day	Every 1/2 Hr	2 x 2 Metres	1.5 x 1.5 Metres	1.5 x 1.5 Metres	Spiders, Lizards, Snakes, Grasshoppers, Worms, Cicadas, Beetles.
	Currawong	2 x Day	Every 1 1/2 Hr	5 x 2 Metres	2 x 2 Metres	2 x 2 Metres	Spiders, Lizards, Snakes, Grasshoppers, Worms, Cicadas, Beetles, Mulberries, Lily Pilli Berries, Figs.

NOCTURNAL	Tawny Frogmouth	Every 2-3 Hrs	Every 2-3 Hrs	5 x 3 Metres	3 x 3 Metres	3 x 3 Metres	Cockroaches, Beetles, Moths, Mice, Crickets.
	Owlet Nightjar	Every 2-3 Hrs	Every 2-3 Hrs	5 x 3 Metres	3 x 3 Metres	3 x 3 Metres	Cockroaches, Beetles, Moths, Mice, Crickets.
GRANIVORES	Cockatoo	Every Hour	Every 3 Hrs	7 x 7 Metres	3 x 3 Metres	3 x 3 Metres	Seeding Grasses, Tea Tree, African Tulip Flowers & Seed Pots.
	Galah & Corella	Every Hour	Every 3 Hrs	3 x 3 Metres	3 x 3 Metres	3 x 3 Metres	Seeding Grasses, Tea Tree, African Tulip Flowers & Seed Pots.
	Rosella	Every Hour	Every 3 Hrs	3 x 3 Metres	2 x 1 Metres	2 x 2 Metres	Seeding Grasses, Tea Tree, African Tulip Flowers & Seed Pots.
	Crested Pigeon	Every Hour	Every 3 Hrs	3 x 3 Metres	2 x 1 Metres	2 x 2 Metres	Seeding Grasses, Tea Tree, African Tulip Flowers & Seed Pots.
	Bronze wing	Every Hour	Every 3 Hrs	3 x 3 Metres	2 x 1 Metres	3 x 3 Metres	Seeding Grasses, Tea Tree, African Tulip Flowers & Seed Pots.
	King Parrot	Every Hour	Every 3 Hrs	7 x 7 Metres	3 x 3 Metres	3 x 3 Metres	Seeding Grasses, Tea Tree, African Tulip Flowers & Seed Pots.

NECTIVORES	Rainbow Lorikeet	Every 3-4 Hrs	Every 2 Hrs	3 X 3 Metres	Cocky Cage Size (Short Term), Then 2 x 2 x 2 Metres	Cocky Cage Size (Short Term), Then 2 x 2 x 2 Metres	Grevilleas, Banksias, Bottlebrush, Wattle, Callistemon, Eucalypts, Silky Oaks.
	Scaly Breasted Lorikeet	Every 3-4 Hrs	Every 2 Hrs	3 X 3 Metres	Cocky Cage Size (Short Term), Then 2 x 2 x 2 Metres	Cocky Cage Size (Short Term), Then 2 x 2 x 2 Metres	Grevilleas, Banksias, Bottlebrush, Wattle, Callistemon, Eucalypts, Silky Oaks.
	Friar Bird/ Little Noisy	Every Hour	Every 2 Hrs + Insect Trap	2 x 2 x 2 Metres	Cocky Cage Size (Short Term), Then 2 x 2 x 2 Metres	Cocky Cage Size (Short Term), Then 2 x 2 x 2 Metres	Grevilleas, Banksias, Bottlebrush, Wattle, Callistemon, Eucalypts, Silky Oaks + Insects.
	Wattle Bird	Every Hour	Every 2 Hrs + Insect Trap	2 x 2 x 2 Metres	Cocky Cage Size (Short Term), Then 2 x 2 x 2 Metres	Cocky Cage Size (Short Term), Then 2 x 2 x 2 Metres	Grevilleas, Banksias, Bottlebrush, Wattle, Callistemon, Eucalypts, Silky Oaks + Insects.
	Noisy Miner	Every 1/2 Hr	Every 2 Hrs + Insect Trap	2 x 2 x 2 Metres	Cocky Cage Size (Short Term), Then 2 x 2 x 2 Metres	Cocky Cage Size (Short Term), Then 2 x 2 x 2 Metres	Grevilleas, Banksias, Bottlebrush, Wattle, Callistemon, Eucalypts, Silky Oaks + Insects.
	Blue Faced Honey Eater	Every Hour	Every 2 Hrs + Insect Trap	2 x 2 x 2 Metres	Cocky Cage Size (Short Term), Then 2 x 2 x 2 Metres	Cocky Cage Size (Short Term), Then 2 x 2 x 2 Metres	Grevilleas, Banksias, Bottlebrush, Wattle, Callistemon, Eucalypts, Silky Oaks + Insects.

MIGRATORY	Koel	2 x Day	1-1.5 Hrs	6 x 3 Metres (Height Important - 2.5 Metres)	4 x 2 Metres	4 x 2 Metres	All Types Of Figs, Mulberries, Berries From Lily Pillie, Blueberry, Mountain Ash, Pepper Tree, Bangalow Palm Berries, Quandong Bush Cherry, Insects.
	Channel Billed Cuckoo	2 x Day	Every 2 Hrs	7 x 2 Metres (Height Important - 2.5 Metres)	4 x 2 Metres	4 x 2 Metres	All Types Of Figs, Mulberries, Berries From Lily Pillie, Blueberry, Mountain Ash, Pepper Tree, Bangalow Palm Berries, Quandong Bush Cherry, Insects, Baby Birds, Cicadas, Large Insects.
	Dollar Bird	2 x Day (Early Morning / Late Afternoon)	Every 2 Hrs	3 x 3 Metres	2 x 2 Metres	2 x 2 Metres	Flying Insects (Must be taught to catch on the wing), Cicadas, Grasshoppers, Moths, and Beetles.
FRUGIVORES	Fig bird	2 x Day	Every 1-1.5 Hrs	2.5 x 1.5 Metres	2.5 x 1.5 Metres	2.5 x 1.5 Metres	All Types Of Figs, Mulberries, Berries From Lily Pillie, Blueberry, Mountain Ash, Pepper Tree, Bangalow Palm Berries, Quandong Bush Cherry, Insects.
	Olive Backed Oriole	2 x Day	Every 1-1.5 Hrs	2.5 x 1.5 Metres	2.5 x 1.5 Metres	2.5 x 1.5 Metres	All Types Of Figs, Mulberries, Berries From Lily Pillie, Blueberry, Mountain Ash, Pepper Tree, Bangalow Palm Berries, Quandong Bush Cherry, Insects.

LARGE INSECTIVORES	Black Faced Cuckoo Shrike	2 x Day	Every 1-1.5 Hrs	5 x 2 Metres (Height Important - 2.5 Metres)	3 x 1.5 Metres (Height Important - 2.5 Metres)	3 x 1.5 Metres (Height Important - 2.5 Metres)	Berries And Flying Insects. Must Be Taught To Catch On Wing.
	Pheasant Coucal	2 x Day	Every 1-1.5 Hrs	5 x 3 Metres (Long Tail Damaged Easily)	3 x 3 Metres	3 x 3 Metres	Frogs, Lizards, Worms, Baby Birds.
WATER BIRDS	Plovers	2 x Day	2 x Day	3 x 3 Metres	3 x 2 Metres	3 x 2 Metres	Ants, Beetles, Worms, Grain, Insects, Moths, Grasshoppers.
	Swamp hens	2 x Day	2 x Day	3 x 3 Metres	3 x 2 Metres	3 x 2 Metres	Underwater Weeds, Seeds, Aquatic Insects, Frogs, Worms, Lizards.
	Moorhens	2 x Day	2 x Day	3 x 3 Metres	3 x 2 Metres	3 x 2 Metres	Underwater Weeds, Seeds, Aquatic Insects, Frogs, Worms, Lizards.
	Curlews	2 x Day	2 x Day	5 x 3 Metres	3 x 2 Metres	3 x 2 Metres	Beach - Small Fish, Crabs, Insects, Worms. Bush - Worms, Lizards, Small Snakes, Beetles, Frogs.
	Hérons	2 x Day	Every 2 Hrs	6 x 3 Metres	3 x 2 Metres	3 x 2 Metres	Insects Dug Out With Beak (Worms Beetles), Grasshoppers, Crustaceans, Water Insects, Fish, Frogs.
	Ibis	2 x Day	Every 2 Hrs	6 x 3 Metres	3 x 2 Metres	3 x 2 Metres	Insects Dug Out With Beak (Worms Beetles), Grasshoppers, Crustaceans, Water Insects, Fish, Frogs.
	Egrets	2 x Day	Every 2 Hrs	6 x 3 Metres	3 x 2 Metres	3 x 2 Metres	Insects Dug Out With Beak (Worms Beetles), Grasshoppers, Crustaceans, Water Insects, Fish, Frogs.

- (1) If an adult bird is only going to be in care for a short time they can be housed in a smaller aviary. A young bird which has never flown before and an older bird that has had a wing injury must go into a flight aviary to build up its muscles, i.e. (4).
- (2) R&R means birds in with injury or illness.
- (3) Fledged Babies means birds out of nest, starting to perch.

(4) Adult birds that have had a wing injury or young hand-raised birds that have never been in the wild.

All birds must have flying practice before being released, whether it is a young bird or an injured adult. It is **VITAL** that you contact your coordinators as soon as you get a baby bird into care. Most species do better if raised with another of their own kind, so if you report what you have in care it makes it easier for us to pair the babies up.

You must also contact your coordinator before releasing a hand-raised baby so we can let you know if we think that your bird is now suitable for release.

IMPRINTING (Baby bonded to humans) is to be avoided at all costs. The bird will not be accepted by other wild birds and therefore will not survive. You don't need to bond with a bird as you would a possum or macropod. Doing this can cause irreversible damage.

Correct identification of your baby is important so you can make sure that you are feeding it the correct diet and teaching it to feed in the right place (whether it be on the ground or up in the tree canopy).