



## Lovebird

(agapornis spp)

### Facts:

Average adult size: **5 to 7 inches**

Average life span: **15+ years with proper care**

Diet: **Herbivore**



Lovebirds are curious, energetic and charming birds originating from Africa. Keeping a Lovebird socialized requires a serious commitment to daily interaction. It is highly recommended to keep Lovebirds in pairs. Includes Fischer's, Black Masked and Peachface Lovebirds.

*Bird owners should avoid non-stick cookware and appliances as they can release fumes hazardous to your bird's health.*

### Feeding & Nutrition:

#### Diet

- Specialized commercial food.
- Do not feed birds avocado, fruit seeds, chocolate, caffeine or alcohol as these can cause serious medical conditions. Avoid sugar and high fat treats.

#### Water

- Clean, fresh, chlorine-free water, changed daily.

#### Frequency of Food

- Fresh food and water should always be available.
- Vegetables and fruits not eaten within a few hours should be discarded.
- Treats should not exceed 10% of total food intake.

### Housing:

- Lovebirds acclimate well to average household temperatures, not to exceed 80°F; be cautious of extreme temperature changes. The habitat should be placed off the floor in an area that is well-lit and away from drafts.
- A habitat approximately 18"W x 18"D x 24"H, with metal bars spaced no greater than 3/8" apart, makes a good home for a pair of Lovebirds; a flight habitat is strongly recommended. It is best to provide the largest habitat possible.
- Perches should be at least 4" long and 1/2" in diameter; a variety of perch sizes to exercise feet and help prevent arthritis is recommended.
- A metal grate over the droppings tray will keep the bird away from droppings; line the droppings tray with habitat paper or appropriate substrate for easier cleaning. To avoid contamination, do not place food or water containers under perches.
- Lovebirds can be kept alone to bond with pet parent or in pairs to bond with each other.
- Birds should be socialized daily by the pet parent.
- **Different types of birds should not be housed together.**

#### Habitat Maintenance

- Clean and disinfect the habitat and perches regularly with a 3% bleach solution; replace substrate or habitat liner weekly or more often as needed.
- Replace perches, dishes, and toys when worn or damaged; rotate new toys into the habitat

**Note:** The information in this Care Guide is not a substitute for veterinary care. If you need additional information, please contact your veterinarian as appropriate.

# Care Guide



regularly.

- Ensure that there are no habitat parts or toys with lead, zinc or lead-based paints or galvanized parts as these can cause serious medical issues if ingested by your bird.
- Do not use a lot of cleaning agents around your bird as the fumes can be harmful. It is recommended to use a natural cleaning product.

## Care:

### Grooming & Hygiene

- Lovebirds love to take baths, so at least twice weekly provide lukewarm water regularly for bathing; remove the water when done. As an alternative, mist the bird with water.
- Clipping flight feathers, when done correctly, can help prevent injury or escape; consult an avian specialist on what is best for your bird.
- Nails should be trimmed by a qualified person to prevent injury to the bird.

### Health

- Active, alert, and sociable
- Eats and drinks throughout the day
- Dry nares and bright, dry eyes
- Beak, legs and feet normal in appearance
- Clean, dry vent
- Smooth, well-groomed feathers

### Normal Behavior

- Single Lovebirds bond best with owners, but keep in pairs if you cannot devote enough daily interaction time.
- Love to chew, so ensure plenty of toys to chew on.
- They can be territorial, have a unique chatter and a naturally loud call.
- Provide foraging toys, which provide important mental stimulation.

## Recommended Supplies:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate Size Habitat | <input type="checkbox"/> Habitat Litter or Paper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Habitat Cover            | <input type="checkbox"/> Food & Water Dishes     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High-quality Food        | <input type="checkbox"/> Toys                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Millet Spray             | <input type="checkbox"/> Bird Bath               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cuttlebone               | <input type="checkbox"/> Play Gym                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Treats                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Grooming Supplies       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Perches                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Vitamins                |

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