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About the Author

Patsy Highfield had different pets through the years but thinks the cockatiel, native to Australia, is one of the most interesting.

Patsy said, "My cockatiel is very interested in what I do and quite affectionate. They each have their own ways and make a great pet."

Patsy wrote her book to help new cockatiel owners start right so they get the most enjoyment from their new pet.

"The cockatiel is bigger than a budgerigar and beautifully colored. It's a great companion or family pet if your children are past the toddler stage."

Patsy said, "My book will help you decide if a cockatiel is a good match for you and your family and guide you through every stage of your life together."

"You need to learn about some cockatiel characteristics which will make all the difference to how well you get along. But, they're easy to manage and can give you a lot of enjoyment."

The best idea would be to get the book before you get our new friend so that you can prepare your home before you get the bird and then match yourself with the perfect pet cockatiel."

"Cockatiels are not all the same. But, they are all clever, cute and colorful."

"When you have read my book, you will know why they are one of the most popular pet birds in the U.S.A. and many other countries."

Introduction

I wrote this book to help the new cockatiel owner get started right and look forward to a long, happy relationship with their new cockatiels.

Read through the whole book first so you have an overview of the needs of your bird and the best way you can train and care for it.

Cockatiels are very popular and not hard to manage.

I will help you decide if a cockatiel is the best bird for you.

But, I can guarantee that they are a great bird to have whistling and sharing their joy of life with you and your family.

They may live 12 or more years. That’s a lot of good times you will share!

I want to give you the best information I can so you know the important information which could affect your decision about what bird to get and whether a cockatiel is best for you.

I know that owning and sharing your life w\for several years with a cockatiel is a wonderful experience but I have pointed out some things which some find drawbacks but every cockatiel owner knows and accepts as part of owning one or more of these wonderful birds.

Two important points are their screeching and the feather down which they and some other parrots produce.

I want you to know about these factors before you get a cockatiel. That’s only fair to you, your family and your new bird.

But, you will also learn about many of the wonderful thins which make the cockatiel one of the most popular pet birds in most every country!

Before you buy your Cockatiel.

Getting a cockatiel is entering a long-term relationship. Your bird could live about 15 years.

These birds can be wonderful companions

There are some points to consider about cockatiels

and also differences between the sexes which need to be considered before you make your choice.

Allergy Warning – feather dust.

If any member of your family has serious long-term allergies, check with the doctor before purchase.

They preen themselves for long periods every day.

During that process, a fine dust is produced which coats their feathers and will spread around the room as they continue to maintain their feathers.

This is a necessary procedure and the powder cannot be removed from the bird without a bath or spray. But, it will come back very quickly because it is essential to the bird’s health and comfort.

Cockatiels are birds which flock together in the wild and all of them need some active companionship every day.

If you don't have, say, an hour a day for checking on and paying attention to our cockatiel, you may find it becomes noisy while alone.

All cockatiels will be fairly noisy at times, some more than others.

This needs to be considered if you live in an apartment or where your neighbors don't like any noise.

Males are usually better mimics and to be more accomplished whistlers. The females are more attentive but all cockatiels will respond to you well when they know you are their friend.

Your Cockatiel and other Pets.



Some pets are more tolerant than others but no pets should be allowed to even approach your new cockatiel until the bird has had a day to check out his surroundings.

Birds

If you have any kind of bird already, don't put the cockatiel in with it, however placid and friendly it is.

There are many birds which can cause stress to or even hurt your cockatiel, including lovebirds and budgerigars. There are probably some exceptions but, on the feedback I've had, keeping a cockatiel with other types of birds could cause problems.

Budgerigars are very popular but they are likely to attack your cockatiel. They are small but feisty, and there are many reports of them badly injuring doves and cockatiels by biting their feet badly.

After the cockatiel has had time to settle down, you might try putting it in a separate cage near the other bird's cage so they can see each other but not make any kind of contact.

Then, give them at least 24 hours to show how they really feel about the other bird.

If the cockatiel appears very nervous, separate their cages so the cockatiel cannot see the other bird. It might start screeching if it is not comfortable with the presence of the other bird.

Other pets should not be allowed in the same room as a cockatiel without a responsible person watching them closely.

Dogs, Cats

These are predators and the cockatiel must be protected from them.

If you already have a dog or cat, you will have to monitor them all the time when they are in the room where the bird's cage is.

Some people have dog or cat which has not caused any problem for the bird but it is important to remain cautious.

Don't let the cockatiel out of its cage while the other pet is in the room.

If they play together, the cockatiel might easily be injured accidentally or when it bites or alarms the other pet.

Apart from the tragedy of losing your bird, the memory could also taint your relationship with the other pet.

Ferrets, reptiles, rodents

I would not risk having any of these creatures in the same room as any of my birds.

Even if you have them both secured in their own cages and some distance apart, the bird could become over-excited and suffer serious injury from flying into something in its cage or just from the shock of seeing the other pet

Cages and other Gear



Your bird likes to climb. It will need a cage which is at least 30 inches (75 cm) long and 25 inches (62 cm) high.

It will also need a smaller cage for visits to the vet. That can also be used to isolate a sick bird or one that is sitting on eggs from any others you may have.

At least some parts of the cage should have horizontal bars to encourage your bird to climb. That’s great exercise!

Used cages and repaired ones can be a risk. The original paint and any welds may contain poisonous substances like lead. There may also be residues of cleaning products or traces of diseases which affected the previous owner’s bird.

Cage Location

Always set the cage at a Never set the cage up low near the floor. The cockatiel will be frightened because it cannot see much of the rest of the room. It could be bumped by people moving around. It will breathe dust and other particles which drift around.

The cage needs to be located on a firm surface with a wall behind it unless the cage itself has a solid back, because cockatiels are susceptible to drafts.

The floor on a cage for one or two cockatiels should have a removable tray so that cleaning loose materials is fairly easy. This should be done each week. Line the tray with white newsprint. If your newspaper is still printed locally

you may be able to get that paper on a roll when it is too small for the presses to use. This is usually very cheap.

The cage needs to be covered to ensure the bird(s) get enough undisturbed rest time.

They will not rest if there are loud noises or other activities in the same area as the cage.

Don't put the cage in a cool area.

Cage Safety

The cockatiel is an inquisitive creature.

Do not use cloth which has loose threads on it as the cage cover or the birds might swallow thread or get caught in the cloth with bad results.

The bars should be a ½ inch apart. The critical point is the bird must not be able to squeeze its head even part-way between the bars or it could be seriously injured.

The doors of each cage you have need careful inspection as well.

Some get caught when they try to move the door of their cage or when they slip their claw between some of the decorative wirework around it.

Cage Accessories

Include at least two perches at different heights. They should be different thicknesses. Perches which are so thin that your bird's claws wrap right around them will cause leg problems later on.

Two water containers and two dry food containers will make it easier for the bird to manage. Any container where the seed or water has spilled or been fouled should be cleaned and refilled as soon as possible to avoid the bird getting wet or possibly eating fouled food.

Clean the containers and change the content every day.

Feeding Your Cockatiel



When you check the seed, you may find the bird eats a couple of types of seeds and leaves or throws out the rest. That doesn't mean the cockatiel picks out the seeds which have everything it needs.

They actually do what we do; concentrate on those it likes rather than those which provide the best nutritional value.

That includes sunflower which is very high in fat.

That's easy for us to understand, but it's likely to affect its health in a fairly short time.

One way to get them to eat more of the other seeds might be to just change the seed every 2 days unless there are any droppings or other rubbish in the bowls.

That way, the bird will probably eat some of the other nutritious seeds because it will have less of the types it likes more available by the second day.

If you do this, remember to check the bowls for the first few days to be sure that the bird is eating the other more beneficial seeds and not just eating less on the second day.

Grit or No Grit

The current advice I got is that grit is not needed by birds like cockatiels which have strong beaks to crack those seeds with husks around them.

There are some reports of cockatiels which have had blockages with clumps of grit so I would not provide it unless your avian vet recommends that you do.

Food for Us, not our Pets!

There are a lot of pet owners who like to share their food with their pets.

Some care is needed because cockatiels are the same as us humans.

Anything with caffeine (chocolate, coffee, tea and “health drinks”) all contain caffeine and no four-legged or avian pet can handle it.

I know from reports about dogs and cats that they may show few symptoms until the poison builds up which makes some people think it’s okay. But, it never is.

Avocado is very popular with humans but is lethal for cockatiels.

Tomatoes are a widely favored fruit, even many picky children will eat a tomato (cherry types preferred!). But, NO tomatoes in any form are safe for your pet bird.

Mushrooms (any kind) are not suitable for parrots.

Onions are also banned because of reports they may cause various serious effects.

Garlic is also to be kept away from your birds.

Make sure that all your family are aware of these potential problems. Small children should be supervised to ensure they don’t give any unsuitable food or snacks to your bird.

Accidents and Health Problems



It's possible that you will have a medical problem with your bird.

As there are new medications and techniques being released all the time, check with your vet and the supplier of your bird for the most current information.

Also, ask the vet what preparations you should have on hand at home?

What you should do in such situations?

"Take a Deep Breath"

You're worried about your pet and how well you can handle the problem. But, you have to get as calm as possible so you can think clearly and help your pet.

You also will make the bird more agitated if you seem frightened.

Your bird is like a small child and it will react fairly instinctively, so you need to be the calm, confident influence.

Bleeding

Cockatiels have some feathers which carry blood. If any of those feathers are damaged, bleeding will start.

Sometimes, this can be very serious fairly quickly.

The usual thing which can help is to apply a little cornstarch or flour to the wound. Some people use a clotting powder but that may harm the bird if it gets into the beak etc.

Egg binding

Most often affects young birds with their early clutches, older birds when they are getting to their breeding limit, and those with poor health.

They may not be getting sufficient nutrition or exercise. Or the stress of the

egg producing process may be too much for the bird to cope with.

The symptoms are a lack of vitality and no interest in food.

Sick birds must be attended to quickly as they will die in a few days.

Vets may be able to get the bird through it.

Prevention by adequate supplements and regular checks are the only way to reduce or avoid the problem.

The problem is usually with soft-shelled eggs when the hen has low calcium.

It is vital to get to an avian vet quickly to try to save the bird.

These soft shells may break before the hen has laid the egg and this is also a serious problem.

Sitting on the Cage Floor

Cockatiels are wary birds. If yours starts sitting on the floor instead of its usual perches, check there is no change to the perch.

Then, examine the bird and any recent droppings.

If it is less lively than usual, call the avian vet and book in.

There may be no problem, but birds that have taken in poisons, fumes, or aerosol drift may react this way.

Change in Droppings

This is a classic clue with many animals and birds.

Sometimes, the explanation is because they had something colorful they don't usually get or they may have had more water (or a shower) and that diluted the consistency of the droppings.

Obesity

Obesity is almost a big a problem with cockatiels as it is with humans.

We have to:

- ✓ provide a variety of suitable foods.
- ✓ make sure our pets don't just eat the high-fat “tasty” seeds.

- ✓ encourage the birds to exercise. They need interesting toys and lots of time with you giving them your full attention.

A seed only diet is often a factor in obesity of pet birds. The bird eats mostly seeds like sunflower and millet which are high in fat. Ensure your bird eats more of the other seeds and alternative food and vegetables you provide.

Don't fill their seed containers to the top as the top layer will spill and be wasted.

Also check the seed a couple of hours after refilling it to ensure that there is not a layer of empty husks making it hard for the cockatiel to get to the seed below.

Effects of Fat Build-up in Cockatiels

Many cockatiels develop breathing problems as fat builds up.

As your bird becomes weaker, it will show less interest in playing with its toys and interacting with you.

Some fat will show as yellow patches beneath its skin.

The extra pressure on your pet's body will lead to stress and reduce its life expectancy.

Join A Club

Your new best friend is your cockatiel but you can find plenty more at the local or national cockatiels societies!

These groups offer meetings in most areas of the country, run exhibitions and provide other services for members.

You can upgrade your knowledge of good methods with cockatiels at any club meeting.

Most members gladly share their knowledge and experience, mostly to repay the help they've had when they were new to this wonderful hobby.

You will find answers to your questions and often opportunities to get products, insurance and other services at a discount.

The local knowledge shared at meetings or afterwards can often repay your entire subscription cost.

I have included a list of some of the societies in this book's resource section.

If none of them are near your location, check their sites for links and details of other clubs around your part of the world.

If you cannot find a club which you can easily access, check with your local library. They usually have a list of groups with special interests as a service to the community.

You can also ask your avian vet's staff for contact details and the stores where you get your pet supplies.

Bringing the new Pet Home!

Check when you can collect your bird and whether they can provide a suitable cardboard box. If not, take your own box or small cage.

Try to have someone go with you to pick up the bird.

They can hold the box or small cage, rather than just strapping it in or laying it in the trunk.

If you have to swerve or stop suddenly, an unprotected cage or box could become a missile with dire results.

Take a cover with it and hold it firmly around the cage or box. Make sure there is a small gap for air to circulate.

Most breeders will have a fact sheet about how to look after the bird. You should find out what they feed their birds so that you can start with that to minimize changes to its feed until your bird is settled in.

Get a Vet Check within 7 Days

If possible, make an appointment with an avian vet for the earliest time after you collect the bird as possible. All birds should be checked in the first week so that you can advise the supplier of any problems which the bird has.

Prepare the room where you will keep the bird in the first few days after arrival.

If you have other cage birds, you should keep the new pet caged in a different room for a few weeks to help prevent any illness it may have affecting your current birds.

Give you new pet about a day to settle with minimum interruption except for checking its general health and cleaning its food and water.

Put the perches in its cage at the mid-level. This will encourage your pet to try all of them. Then, it will know all are equally safe for it to use.

If they are at different heights, the bird will stop on the top one so it can see all areas. When you move it to where you intend it to stay in your home, vary the level of the perches.

If it seems frightened on the first day, try covering the sides and back of the cage, so it only has to watch the front area.

If your new bird does not eat and remains mostly still, it may be slowly adjusting. If it continues to have little interest in its surroundings, you may need to call the vet or supplier for help.

Give your bird a couple of days of peace. You can talk quietly to it when you are cleaning the cage, its fittings and checking the bird’s condition.

Don’t try to handle it more than necessary.

You must clean the bowls, cage floor and surrounding area each day to minimize the amount of waste around and discourage vermin.

Check the bird’s droppings just by sight. Check with the supplier or your vet if there is anything which looks unusual.

Checking Your New Bird

Here are some simple checks even a beginner can give a bird they are thinking of buying.

Check its temperament. Is it screeching even when there are no birds or people near it or when anybody approaches?

In the first example, it may be seeking attention because it is lonely or it has a problem.

Or, it may be a persistent screecher.

If it is fluffed up, it may be setting up the inner layer of feathers to insulate itself better.

Or, it may not be well.

Check that the bird is not missing feathers, except perhaps at the top of the head – that’s common.

Damaged feathers could be indication of a problem. Missing feathers would be unless one has been taken for a test.

Feet problems are serious for cockatiels. It will affect its ability to maneuver around, get and service a mate and support itself properly on perches. That will affect its wellbeing and ability to look after itself around other birds.

Check its eyes and nasal openings. Any problem, like discharge or injury to its eye is likely to make the bird’s life harder. Before considering that bird, you need full information and a check by your avian vet.

Check the bird’s vent for signs of diarrhea, swelling or injury. Anything unusual with the droppings that is not likely to be due to diet change, should be taken as a warning.

After You get it Home

If you bought a hand-reared bird and it bobs its head all the time when you get it home, it may have been weaned too early. That indicates it wants something to eat and is not yet feeding itself all the time.

Contact the breeder immediately. Hand-feeding needs to be done with a special mixture and an experienced person.

You might be able to get the mixture from your vet, but feeding the immature bird is delicate and risky for the untrained.

But, if it bobs just a few times, it may be properly weaned and just showing it likes you.

Breeding Basics

I just mention some basic information about breeding cockatiels so you have some clues to keep in mind when you start thinking about that part of the cockatiel ownership.

If that is something which appeals to you, I don't want to put you off but ask that you consider the information here which is intended to give you a balanced view of the current situation for a new breeder.

Breeding cockatiels needs:

- \$ Capital for at least two years. Your vet expenses will be much higher as you will need more tests, including DNA or other sexing checks.
- \$ Premises which meet all regulations.
- \$ Accountant and possibly legal advice.
- \$ At least a couple of pairs of registered birds, and more breeding pairs from other genetic lines later.
- \$ Licenses in most jurisdictions.
- ? Agreeable neighbors (Cockatiels all make some noise).

The first things to think about are the demands on yourself and your family. You will need to look after the hen and chicks intensively, night and day, through the first several weeks.

Can you handle the loss of some birds, including those you've had for some time?

How many people are breeding or supplying cockatiels in your area?

Most pet shops have networks of suppliers with much lower prices than small operators can offer.

Registered breeders of these birds usually have years of experience and many customers.

How will you handle those young birds which you cannot sell?

You will find that buyers will change their preferences for colors over time and some popular types will lose favor.

If you only have the less popular combinations, you'll have to scale down or buy more breeders.

Birds need care all year round but each hen should only be allowed to raise 2 clutches a year or its health may suffer.

Birds should be kept until 18 months before breeding them.

Hand-rearing is intensive. Each chick needs many feeds every day and night and this may happen any time during the breeding season.

Vet fees for checking all birds, vaccinations and emergencies are hard to predict but can be high.

Finding homes for unsold birds is not easy.

It is not a good idea for a cockatiel owner to just breed one clutch “for the experience”. It is not necessary for the birds either.

If there are problems after-hours they need to be attended to right away or you could lose birds or have them suffering for hours.

After-hours fees are usually high and there's no guarantee of success.

Breeding Season

Cockatiels should be at least 18 months old before being allowed to mate.

If you breed pet birds

First, ensure you have homes for the 4 to six young that may arrive.

Understand that your pair of birds will focus on their new job and have less or no time for you and other members of your family.

All birds need a quality diet, attention and exercise to maintain their health and give them the best life possible.



When you breed birds, they need special attention to their diet through the year to ensure they have all the nutrients to keep them in top condition and provide for their chicks.

All hens need extra calcium starting weeks before the season starts. Calcium blocks and cuttlefish are good sources. Your vet may recommend something more from their experience.

Cockatiels will display breeding behavior whether or not there are other cockatiels around.

When it's feeling amorous, a male cockatiel will probably whistle more, move is tail side to side and rub his bottom against his perch, a particular toy or even your hand.

The tune your male bird uses most at this time is likely to be a variation of it's father's mating call if the father was kept near the young birds where it was raised,

If he rubs your hand, gently return him to his perch.

A female cockatiel may walk around flattened slightly and waving her rear when she is ready to mate.

Provide a nest box because they will lay infertile eggs if there is no male

available to them.

Leave the eggs in the nest box while the hen tends them. If you take them away before she leaves them a couple of weeks later, she will probably lay more eggs.

This takes her store of calcium down.

Each egg laid could cause the hen to become egg-bound which is serious condition requiring quick veterinary attention.

Tips

Sexing

Sexing is not as easy with cockatiels as some other parrots.

Generally, males have brighter plumage and markings but much of this is not distinct until after the first molt.

With grey cockatiels, the female usually retain some of the bar markings under their wings which males do not.

For the varieties which are mostly white, sexing may require a DNA test.

Can You Train it To Stop Screeching?

The honest answer is that this is ingrained behavior which no cockatiel will give up.

But, some cockatiels are less “screechy” and many are louder because of experiences they’ve had.

With many, you may be able to reduce the level and amount of screeching with these suggestions.

Teach your bird to whistle or mimic you.

This is just a matter of repetition when you and the bird are comfortable and you have some time.

I’ve given my tips about that in the next section.

If you want to try to reduce its screeching, you need to understand why it does it.

Cockatiels start the day with some screeches and do some before they sleep.

The males, who are the busiest screechers also have to practice their call for each mating season.

The best chance to reduce these unwelcome noises is to develop reactions which don’t reward the bird for them.

Many owners rush to the bird whenever it makes any loud sound.

The bird is likely to realize it’s an easy way to get your attention, so it does it

more often and maybe louder!

Some feed (bribe) or play with it to stop the noise. You know the result.

Shifting the bird out of the room will usually upset it and cause more noise or make the bird fearful.

Any aggressive action or punishment, like taking away some of its toys, will only stop the screech for a short time and could significantly damage your relationship and hope of easing the problem.

The best ways to reduce the noise is to accept that some is inevitable.

Check what time your bird screeches most and what is happening near the bird when it starts?

If you see a pattern, find alternatives to those sequences which don't trigger the screeches.

Reward good behavior immediately.

Try using a command like “No” when the bird screeches at a bad time or high level. It may work if you also use that command for other behaviors you want to curb.

Give the bird more attention and distractions through the day, but never just after a screeching session. The bird would think that you were rewarding it for screeching!

Training and Tricks to Teach Your Bird



Before you start to teach your cockatiel tricks you need to train it to accept your presence so that you can start interacting with it.

Please understand that all cockatiels, like each of us, are different in our needs and abilities.

It's generally true that male cockatiels are better talkers and mimics than females. One reason for this is the males use a call as part of their appeal to possible mates. They practise that a lot in the season!

But, with all cockatiels, their level of ability and their interest in mimicry and doing tricks varies widely between birds.

The first rule is the kindness pays while any negative behavior toward the bird could ruin your success in training it.

They don't "talk", they mimic the combination of sounds.

Get to Know Your Bird.

After you have put your new bird in its cage and left it mostly alone for 24 hours, you can start to let it get used to you.

Sit near the cage, but focus your attention on something you're doing, not directly on the bird. Don't go into the cage for another day, except if you need to do that to get the containers for cleaning and refilling.

Then, you can start to offer small treats though the bars. Don't do a lot and be patient and ready to withdraw if the bird is still extremely nervous.

The next step is to put your hand in the cage.

You may want to wear a leather glove because cockatiels can bite when they are nervous.

Put a small piece of millet on the palm of your hand or the glove.

When the bird has accepted the treat, take your hand away for a while.

Then, do the same thing again.

Then, it's time to try the first contact trick.

Step UP!

When you have about twenty minutes without interruptions, try this trick.

Put your hand in the cage as a loose fist with thumb at the top.

Extend your first finger and bring it near to your bird's chest, just above its legs.

Say, "Step up." And hold your finger in place for several seconds.

If the bird seems nervous, just slowly withdraw your hand and try again later.

If it stays calm, move your finger gently against its chest and hold it there.

Most birds will instinctively put one claw on your finger.

Some will then lift the other claw alongside it.

If not, gently move the finger slightly closer and the bird should put the other claw up.

Another reward is indicated here of course.

You can extend this trick into a "ladder" by putting your other forefinger above the one it has just stepped onto so it climbs one or two more levels before you let it back to its perch.

To get it to step down on command, just take it to a perch with its feet just below the top of the perch, then say, "Step down" and gently turn your wrist a very small amount.

The cockatiel will want to get on its perch, of course, so this command will be easy to teach it!

Clicker Training

Cockatiels will respond to clicker training.

This involves using a clicker of some sort to encourage your pet bird to do an action you like.

You may use a clicker from a pet shop or the click on a ballpoint pen or just

click your tongue.

The first step is to get your bird comfortable with the clicker and to recognize something good is happening.

If you are teaching the bird to step up, put your finger next to the bird's chest and say, "Step Up." As it makes the step, click the clicker and immediately offer it a reward.

Timing is very important. You must click as soon as the bird does what you want so that it connects the words, "Step Up" (or whatever relates to the particular action you are teaching it) with its action and the reward.

Resources

Cockatiel Clubs

U.S.A.

National Cockatiel Society

www.cockatiels.org/

From their website: “The National Cockatiel Society is the only Charitable cockatiel society in the United States of America.”

American Cockatiel Society

www.acstiels.com/

From their website: “America’s original and oldest international cockatiel society”.

Australia

The Australian National Cockatiel Society Inc

<http://www.cockatielsociety.org.au/>

The Australian National Cockatiel Society Inc is a non-profit based club that endeavors to support and encourage anyone interested in aviculture, in particular the keeping and or breeding of the Cockatiel. Based in Queensland

Native Cockatiel Society of Australia Inc.

<http://www.cockatiel.org.au/>

From their website: Thank you for visiting the Native Cockatiel Society of Australia Inc. We are a club dedicated to Cockatiels and our objectives are to:

Educate, promote and develop an interest in Cockatiels in the Community.

Promote friendly contact between other avicultural organizations and to encourage a spirit of co-operation.

Our monthly meetings held at Emu Plains or Lansvale

The Parrot Society of Australia Inc.

<http://www.parrotsociety.org.au/>

From their site: The Parrot Society of Australia Inc. is an incorporated, non-profit organisation founded in 1980 Based in Brisbane

Covers all parrots. Has 6 Meetings a Year and a Magazine.

U.K.

The Parrot Society UK

<http://www.theparrotsocietyuk.org/home>

Covers all parrots. From their site: We encourage the preservation, conservation, keeping and breeding of parrot species some of which are endangered and in need of help.

This web site is not only aimed at parrot keepers, but also stimulates interest of the public.

Happy Times Ahead!



Thanks for reading my book about one of the most popular pet birds in the world, our cockatiels.

The people who love and enjoy the company of cockatiels know these birds are funny and clever. They add some smiles to every day!

I hope you will use the information here to make a wonderful start with your new cockatiel!

Patsy Highland

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