

OWNING A PET BIRD: THE 5s OF HOUSING



Size:

at least 2x bird's wingspan;
tall enough to accommodate tail length

Shape:

avoid round cages



long is better than tall



Species:

avoid housing different sized species together



Spacing:

cage bar spacing should be appropriate to the species



Safety:

use cages made with bird-safe materials, replace rusty cages, keep cages clean, use bird-safe toys



OWNING A PET BIRD: CAGE HAZARDS



Fabric & cotton toys

Do not use as they are choking & entanglement hazards



Hooks & Quick links

Use thicker ones as thin ones can pierce flesh and beaks



Escape routes

Secure doors and openings with zip-ties or swivel hooks to prevent escape



Bells

Tongues and beaks can get cut or stuck



Rust

Check cage regularly for rust as it can cause heavy metal poisoning if ingested

OWNING A PET BIRD: CAGE HAZARDS

Mirror Toys

Do not use as they can cause hormonal behaviour or psychological issues



Grit

Contrary to popular belief, parrots do NOT need grit to help digestion - grit can cause impaction!



Small Beads

Big parrots can choke on them if swallowed



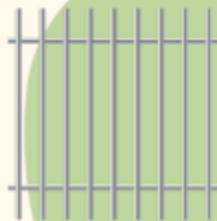
Plastic or Sandpaper perches

Improper perches can cause sores and wounds to develop over time.

Unsafe Metals

Unsafe: Zinc, lead, iron, rusty metals, etc

Safe: Stainless steel, aluminum, nickel, wrought iron



OWNING A PET BIRD: DANGERS AT HOME

