



MALE CANARY

Serinus canaria

ORIGIN: Canaries are native to the Canary Islands from which they get their name. In the wild, they are brownish-green and closely resemble a sparrow. However, after over 500 years of captive breeding the most common color is yellow.

SIZE: Male canaries reach an average adult height of 3-4 inches. Canaries are solitary in nature, so a lone male is perfectly content by himself and will sing whether you are there or not.

CAGING: A single male canary requires a cage that is at least 1 foot tall and has a floor space of 1 square feet. Square or rectangular cages are preferable to dome-shaped cages. The metal bars should be no more than ½-inch apart and the perches should be at least ½-inch in diameter. The cage should have a grate over the bottom which separates the bird from feces. The cage should be placed in a location which will allow the bird to frequently see his owners.

SUBSTRATE: A substrate that is easily cleaned such as newspaper is ideal. Corn cob or crushed walnut shell may also be used. The substrate should be changed daily.

TEMPERATURE: Canaries will adjust to room temperature, but extreme heat and cool should be avoided. The cage should be placed in a location that is free from drafts and direct sunlight.

WATER: Canaries must have access to fresh, clean drinking water at all times. The water dish should be cleaned and refilled daily.

DIET: Canaries will thrive on a variety of commercial fortified seeds and pelleted diets especially made for them, and these should comprise 60%-70% of the diet. Fresh fruits and vegetables, especially dark leafy greens, should be offered several times weekly. In addition, spray millet should be available at all times. Avoid avocados, chocolate, alcohol, and caffeine as these are toxic to the bird.

RECOMMENDED SUPPLIES

- Secure cage
- Water dish
- Food bowl
- Substrate as detailed above
- Literature about canaries
- Perches of various sizes
- Fortified seed and pelleted food
- Cuttlebone
- Spray Millet
- Assorted bird toys for entertainment

OPTIONAL ACCESSORIES

- Bird bath
- Nail clippers
- Play gym
- Cement perch for natural nail filing

SMALL ANIMAL & BIRD REPLACEMENT GUARANTEE

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NOTE: The information contained in this caresheet solely represents the opinions of the author. It is not intended as a complete guide to captive husbandry.

