

## GOOD BIRD CARE HABITS:

**DAILY:** Change water and refill seed container or blow the hulls off the seed dish. At least a short period of time out of the cage will make your bird happier and healthier.

**OFTEN:** Offer fresh vegetables. (see the list of nutritious vegetables in the "Basic Cockatiel Information" booklet.

**SPRAY:** Your cockatiel with tepid water from a plant sprayer or take it into the bathroom when you shower to keep feathers sleek.

**CHANGE:** Cage lining/papers. The more often the better, as rotting food and droppings breed bacteria and molds.

**WEEKLY:** Disinfect dishes in a 10% bleach solution and wipe out cage.

## SUPPLIES

**Cage:** Large enough for bird to spread its wings. Avoid round or cylindrical cages; if possible select square or rectangular cages.

**Seed:** Feed a basic mixture of millet, canary and hulled oats. Sunflower seeds (high in fat) can be fed in moderation. Pellets are available also.

**Vitamins:** Avian vitamins containing D3 for calcium absorption.

**Cuttlebone:** A source of calcium. Place in cage with soft side IN.

**Perches:** Natural perches vary in diameter so a bird's foot is not always held in the same position. Bake or boil to disinfect.

**Vegetables:** A diet of seed is not nutritionally complete. Birds need extra vitamin A in their diet and the nutrients found in DARK (not iceberg lettuce) leafy greens. Feed carrot tops, grated carrot, spinach, broccoli, yams, kale or thaw frozen mixed veggies regularly.

**Treats:** A cockatiel can eat almost anything you do. Avoid oil, sugar, salt, alcohol or caffeine. Try: popcorn, shredded wheat, nuts, seeds (poppy, fennel), puffed cereals, toast, whole grain bread, Cheerios, oatmeal, pasta, rice cakes, refried beans, hard boiled eggs, corn muffins, and other whole grains.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**Habitat:** Arid inland Australia. Temperatures range from 40 to 110° F.

**Lifespan:** 15-20 years with excellent care.

**Colors:** Wild cockatiels are gray. Various mutations have been developed, the most common being lutino, pied, cinnamon and pearl. Fallow, silver, white faced and albino exist, as well as combinations of the above. Normal gray is dominant over the mutations colors. Many normal looking birds are "split" for a mutation color, or could pass it on.

**Sexes:** At six months a chick molts into its adult plumage. Male grays, cinnamons, pearls, fallows, and silvers develop bright yellow heads and solid color feathers under their tails. Male pearls look like normal male grays upon maturity, but father pearl daughters. Females of all colors retain the markings of young birds. Lutino males have solid white feathers under their tails; female Lutinos have white feathers with yellow bars on them. Pies are much more difficult to sex except by behavior; males whistle, bob their head, square shoulders and hop.

**Disease:** Cockatiels are in general very healthy. They do not need regular checkups or shots. You should take a cockatiel that looks ill to an avian veterinarian, however, birds mask illness well and a pet which looks ill probably is very ill. Observe normal behavior and contact a vet specializing in birds if you notice unusual behavior. Watch for a change in the color of feces, soiled vent area, crusty patches on beak and legs, unusual feather loss, inability to perch, or discharge from nostrils. Keep a sick bird warm with light bulb or heating pad over part of a cage. Keep it separate from other birds.

# AMERICAN COCKATIEL SOCIETY, INC.



# AMERICAN COCKATIEL SOCIETY

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

\*Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\*City: \_\_\_\_\_

\*State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*All the Above Required**

### DUES

USA, Canada, Mexico and Overseas

Single (1 member)	\$20.00 _____
Dual (same address)	\$25.00 _____
2 year single	\$36.00 _____
2 year dual	\$46.00 _____

U.S. Funds only

**Magazine will be emailed to members  
outside the USA**

### Mail Completed Form To:

American Cockatiel Society  
Membership Secretary, c/o  
Tom Strauss  
P.O. Box 980055  
Houston, TX 77098

Referred by: \_\_\_\_\_

The American Cockatiel society, (A.C.S) was founded in 1977. Our goals are:

- To encourage an interest in and understanding of the Cockatiel as a pet or exhibition bird.
- To encourage improvement of the Cockatiel through closed banding, selective breeding and record keeping.
- To increase interest in mutations through study pertaining to the cockatiel.
- To exchange ideas, and inform all members throughout the world, through the medium of the American Cockatiel society Magazine.
- To support research pertaining to the nutrition and diseases of Cockatiels.
- To establish a panel of qualified judges so that judging will be of uniform quality, governed by the standard.
- To have and support an American cockatiel Society Specialty Show each year.

Visit our web site at:

<http://www.acstiels.com>

***You're Slated For Success  
With A.C.S.!***

## AMERICAN COCKATIEL SOCIETY

Benefits of Membership Include:

**New Member Booklet:** Information on purchasing a new cockatiel, diet, housing, wing and toe nail clipping, taming, handfeeding, common diseases, harmful plants, exhibiting, frequently asked questions, beginning genetics and more.

**Magazine:** The American Cockatiel Society publishes a quarterly magazine featuring articles on pet care, breeding, management, genetics and many other subjects of educational value and interest to the pet owner, breeder and exhibitor.

**Advisors:** When you become a member of the American Cockatiel Society you have access to a team of experienced and dedicated advisors. Advice is free of charge and you are encouraged to write to advisors covering such facets of the Cockatiel as breeding, management, genetics and pet care.

**Bands:** Closed, traceable, metal bands coded with A.C.S. and the member's own personal code are available for a small charge.

**Shows & Awards:** A.C.S. banded cockatiels may earn A.C.S. points to become champions or grand champions. A yearly specialty show is held in addition to shows judged by accredited judges. Location of shows and lists of winners are published in the magazine.

For further information or clubs who wish to affiliate with A.C.S. please contact your American Cockatiel Society State Representative, or you may write to:

**American Cockatiel Society  
c/o Cindy Swiler  
767 N. Valleyview  
Wichita, KS 67212**