DOVE care sheet

Do not feed fruit seeds, avocados, caffeine or alcohol. Bird owners should avoid non-stick cookware and appliances as they can release fumes hazardous to your bird's health.

CAGING NEEDED

- Appropriate size cage. A flight cage is recommended. Bars of cage should be no more than 3/8 inch apart. Metal bars and a metal grate over the dropping tray is recommend. Provide the largest habitat possible. - Wooden or plastic dowel perches are usually sold with the cage you purchase. A variety of perch widths are good for a dove's feet. - You will need at least three feeding cups. Two are usually sold with the cage. To avoid contamination, do not place food or water containers under perches.

ENVIRONMENT

Birds acclimate well to average household temperatures. Keep cage off the floor and avoid drafty areas. Never place cage in direct sunlight. Cover cage at night with an appropriate cover and place in a dark area to ensure your dove a good night sleep.

DIET

- Fresh seed should be provided daily. Pelleted diets are also recommended. If your bird is used to a seed diet, convert to pellets gradually. - Finely chopped greens should be given daily. Vegetables not eaten within 24 hours should be discarded. - Birds appreciate a variety in their food. Millet is also recommended.

WATER NEEDS

Provide fresh, clean, chlorine-free water daily.

MISC. INFORMATION

Doves are community birds and are best kept with at least one other dove. Doves make a pleasant cooing sound.

AVERAGE SIZE

7 - 12 inches long.

LIFE SPAN

10 - 20 years.

SHOPPING LIST FOR NEEDED SUPPLIES

- Seed and/or Pellets
- Millet
- Vitamin Supplements
- Treats
- Variety of Perches
- Cage & Cage Cover
- Cage Paper or Appropriate Litter
- Food & Water Dishes
- Bird Bath
- Book about Doves