



Basic care: Crested Myna

The Crested Myna has an average life span of 8 years. As a pet, they need enough living space and adequate care. Below are some care tips:

Living Environment

As pets, the Crested Myna can easily become overweight. They need a large birdcage (not the ones used for travel) that is at least a minimum of 120x120x100 cm.

The depth and width of the cage is very important.

Provide at least 2-3 different types of perches so that the bird can switch around, in case one is not comfortable for their claws.

The best fit for a bird's claws is if the perch allows their claws to hold on to $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ of the width of the perch.

If your house is big enough, please provide an even larger cage or aviary for your pet bird. The basic principle is that the bird's living space allows them to freely hop up and down the cage. You can even put small potted plants inside the cage to help birds de-stress.

The birdcage should be placed indoors and close to a window so that the bird can get some sunlight, which is good for their health.

If you must keep your bird outside, you must prevent the cage from being exposed to direct sunlight and you must provide enough shade and shelter from rain.

At night, use a birdcage cover that will block off wind and light so that your pet can get some good rest.

Excrements

Clean the birdcage daily and carefully, this prevents your bird from getting sick.

Food

1. Bird Feed

Choose wild bird feed that is high in protein. You can keep the feed inside the feeder at all times and replace with fresh feed every 1-2 days.

2. Fruits

Feed a maximum of one fruit per day. Papayas, apples, pears, kiwis, strawberries, and cherries are all good choices. Papayas can be very good and nutritious for crested mynas; it can prevent lame and weak legs. Cut the fruit into bite size pieces, each piece about the size of your fingertip.

3. Mealworms

Is a good source of animal protein, feed no more than 3-5 mealworms per day.

Water

Please keep the water bowl clean by washing/brushing it everyday. Provide clean water or filtered water. (When birds drink water, their whole peak gets immersed in the water, therefore it is crucial to change the water and clean the bowl everyday to prevent bacterial growth.)

Health

To prevent pet overpopulation, please do not breed your bird.

See your vet immediately if you notice something wrong with your pet, including lethargy, closed eyes, fluffy feathers, change in stance, heavy and quick breathing, weight loss etc.

Important Things to Remember

1. Birds are curious animals, make sure there are no dangerous objects laying around that they can swallow.
2. Birds do not like humid weather, it is suggested that you clean their perches every 1-2 weeks to prevent claw infections.

Sources

第一次養鳥就上手 (陳雅翎著, 城邦文化出版)

<http://fhk.nmns.edu.tw/evey/index.asp?m=99&m1=3&m2=97&id=67>

<https://vcahospitals.com/know-your-pet/mynah-birds-feeding>

Consultation

In-Asia Animal Hospital · Dr. Zhang Jia Xing

Information described above is for reference only. For professional advice please consult a professional veterinarian.

www.sPCA.org.tw