

## Suet Feeding is Easy and Mess Free

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# feed suet to backyard BIRDS



Suet feeding is a great way to attract birds - both during the winter and summer months. For some children, the experience of helping a parent fill a suet feeder is their first experience with bird feeding.

### What is suet?

Suet is a high-fat food made from animal or vegetable fat and assorted seeds, fruit, nuts, or insects. It is formed into a solid shape. Suet delivers a large amount of energy to birds. It used to be fed almost exclusively in wintertime to help non-migrating birds survive when food is scarce, but now it is used year-round to give birds energy for nesting and migration, too. Suet can be found in many shapes, including: balls, logs, and blocks.

### Which birds eat suet?

Most birds that enjoy suet are cling feeders - birds that cling to tree trunks in search of insects. However, many other birds feed on suet, too. Woodpeckers, nuthatches, chickadees, mockingbirds, warblers, titmice, kinglets, nuthatches, jays, wrens, and other species have been known to visit suet feeders.

### How do you offer suet?

- A. Block suet is offered in a cage.
- B. Suet balls are offered in tube-style feeders or on feeding pins.
- C. Suet logs fit inside suet-log feeders.



### Where do you hang a suet feeder?

Hang the suet feeder close to a tree, at least 5 ft from the ground.

#### SUET CAN MELT

Suet is solid at room temperature, but when temperatures soar in the summer it can melt quickly. To avoid the mess of melted suet, get a no-melt variety. If not available, place the block in a shaded area and check the block frequently to ensure it is not sticking to the sides of the suet cage. If your suet is un-rendered, it can spoil easily, so try to select rendered varieties. This will help ensure your birds do not get sick from eating your suet.