

Please Pass the Pellets

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff



Healthy, Wholesome Pellets

In the past, bird diets consisted mainly of seed. Thanks to advances in nutritional knowledge and manufacturing processes, your bird can now enjoy crunchy, flavorful pellets, which also offer many advantages to seed-only diets.

- **Balanced nutrition** Pellet diets contain precise levels of essential nutrients, helping to ensure complete, balanced nutrition. Conversely, seed diets frequently cause nutritional imbalances, since a bird may eat only his favorite seeds. Many seeds are also high in fat and low in many essential nutrients.

- **A realistic diet** The diet of wild birds consists of a large variety of items, generally much broader than the typical seed mix. For many birds in the wild, seed is only one part of their diet, and the availability of seeds varies by season. Pelleted foods contain a much wider variety of ingredients than seed diets.



- **Species-specific nutrition** Many pellet foods, such as [Kaytee Exact Natural](#) foods are formulated for specific birds (canaries, parakeets, cockatiels, parrots, and so on). This allows you to feed your bird the exact levels of protein, fat, fiber, and other essential nutrients he needs to thrive.

- **Fun variety** Your bird appreciates a varied, appetizing diet as much as you do. While pelleted foods are similar in purpose, they differ greatly in presentation - size, style, shape, texture, and color. [Kaytee Exact Rainbow](#) foods for example, come in vibrant reds, greens, oranges, and yellows; and range in size from 1/8" to 1/2" or larger pellets.

- **Less mess** While seed diets yield messy hulls and discarded seeds, pellet diets offer little to no mess. They're completely edible and



therefore less likely to end up scattered all over your floor or your bird's cage bottom.

- **A reduced need for supplements**

Commercial pellet diets contain adequate amounts of vitamins and minerals for good health, frequently making supplements unnecessary. However, your bird may occasionally require nutritional supplements. Before supplementing your bird's pellet diet, consult your veterinarian.



Healthy, wholesome pellet foods – with their wide range of colors and shapes – offer the essential nutrition and flavor to satisfy birds of all varieties, sizes, and preferences.