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# BEST FINCH PRODUCTS

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Tanya Logan

<http://www.gouldiangardens.com>



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## DISCLAIMER

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This book is designed to provide information only. It is not meant to be used, nor should it be used to diagnose or treat any medical/veterinary condition. If you need a veterinarian, please contact one ASAP.

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There are affiliate links inside the book from various sources including Amazon. "As an Amazon Associate I earn from qualifying purchases." Any pennies I make from this endeavor goes to my favorite Bird saving charity, a 501©3 organization.

If you're new to finches, you might be wondering: what's the best cage? What is the best brand of food for my finches? Which style of water bowl is best? And on and on.

It's amazing how these little creatures grab our hearts! So we want the best for them. Here's a quick rundown of a few things we think are important. Links are provided for your convenience. \*

\*some of these may be affiliate links, for which we earn a small commission. We donate that to a 501c3 parrot rescue, so – thank you!

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## CAGES

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Finch cages are more confusing than one would think, in part because PET STORES TELL YOU WRONG. They'll sell you a tiny cage for your tiny finch...but soon you realize all he does is sit there. That's because they need space to fly. And a flying bird is a healthy bird!

So the smallest cage I'd ever give a pair of finches or canaries is: 30x18x18. Take a tape measure with you to the store, or choose one of these:

**(click the pictures to link to the products online. Some people have said they have to right-click and scroll down to 'open link.')**

**Below is the 30x18x18 we like best.** It's sturdy and has good doors and is made by a well-known company.



For even more room, try one of these two models. We have used both.



31 x 20.5 x 53



37x23x60 inches

Once the bug bites and you're getting into multiple finches, a cage like this one is nice. It's powder coated, zinc free, and has both front and side access doors. (Ditch those long perches and replace them with front-to-back perches on each end to encourage flight.)



37X27X68 inches

For multiple species, these stacked cages are high-quality and big enough for several finches – and the bar spacing is ½ inch (perfect!). It comes in a variety of colors.



32X21X74

## PERCHES

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After the cage, you'll want some perches. The dowel perches that come with most cages are a big problem. First, they are usually too big – but also too “perfect.” They don't offer the feet any challenge. So trade them out for tree branches or some other surface like those below.

The second problem is the perches almost always go across the cage. We want finches to fly as much as possible, so a perch on each end works better.

Branches with attachments already in place are nice:

[Amazon](#)



[NewFrog](#)

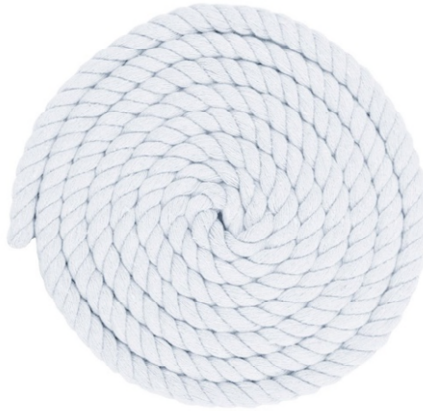


Rope perches are great – but if the thread ever comes loose, take scissors and clip them immediately. I prefer ½” diameter ropes for finches, and I can tell you this one is a little sturdier than some other brands. It's flexible and you can bend it any way you like.



Regular rope from the hardware store will work, too:

Click the image to see  
online



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#### FEEDERS

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Some cages come with feeders. They're small plastic rectangles that may (or may not!) attach inside the cage. Most have little covers, which the finches promptly remove for you.

This feeder is nice, its only problem is that it is too large for one or two pairs of finches. They'll end up wasting a lot of food.



Here are a few types that might work better:

(Amazon) The 3<sup>rd</sup> one shows a bigger bird, but don't be fooled. It holds about 1 cup of seed and is a perfect overnight feeder for a small flock of finches.



(The same thing,  
Via Pets Warehouse)



And at \$1.25 each, [these](#)  
are a great value (and pssst – I use them for chop!)



You can get really creative with feeders if you like:

This glass terrarium is a favorite (I usually put some non-slip cover inside it)



And the tiny teacups  
are just fun.

Or try a gorgeous  
glass hanging plate:



Here's one that's available as a tutorial on [DIYShowoff.com](http://DIYShowoff.com).

The one below is from Pinterest, so no link – it's a DIY project. But it'd be awesome for finch feeders!



Did that get your imagination going?

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## WATER

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You'll quickly find that those little dishes that come with the cage collect droppings. It's almost impossible to keep them clean. The absolute best drinker would be these, but I'll be honest. They're really hard to clean. And if you don't clean the drinking tube well, it can harbor tons of germs – and the little ball can get stuck! If the ball sticks, no water comes out. So only use these if you're ridiculously attached to cleaning.





This type of drinker is easy to clean and doesn't have the issue of the sticky spout. I use them more than anything else.

And the one below is clearly made for outdoor use but would be awesome hanging in an aviary as well.



## DÉCOR

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Decorating the cage isn't a "must" but it's fun. Here are a few ideas for enhancing your Gouldian Finch cage.

First, if the cage is not against a wall you can use some fabric to cover the back or the back and 2 sides to make  
This one from Pinterest  
curtains on the front. It looks  
acceptable for use around



the finches feel more secure.  
went further and made tie-back  
like no-pill fleece, which is  
pet birds.

Here's another one, also from Pinterest, with a nice handmade cover:



My favorite thing is plants, either real or fake, inside and around the cage. Besides looking good, it helps the birds feel secure.

PHOTO FROM GOOGLE 1



PHOTO CREDIT MAXIZOO.IE



PHOTO FROM GOOGLE

And lots of people are using fake grass from the hardware store in the bottom of the cage. It kind of hides the droppings, and if you have 2 one can be in the cage while the other is washed and hosed off.



I like to use flowers and lots of greenery in mine.



This vine is one I use a lot.  
website)

(click the picture to visit



Another one I like is this “shrub” that can add a little height. They love to play in/ on it.

And there's nothing to compare with real plants for both decoration and health. Even the ones around the cage on the right add to the ambiance.



## FOOD

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OK enough decorating. I mean, you have to leave room for the bird, right?

So you'll want to stock up on food before the wee one comes into your life. The first thing to do is ask your breeder what food he is using and buy some of that. Hopefully he gave you some when you bought the birds. But sometimes they aren't feeding the "best" foods, probably due to owning a lot of finches. So here are some foods you can purchase easily online or in your local pet store that we feel are good, healthy foods. Seed:

### Volkman



### Higgins



### Kaytee



Finches should not live on seed-only diets, so in addition to the fresh food you are feeding them, you might consider pellet food:

### Roudybush Nibbles



### Lafeber's Finch Granules



### TOPS Pellets

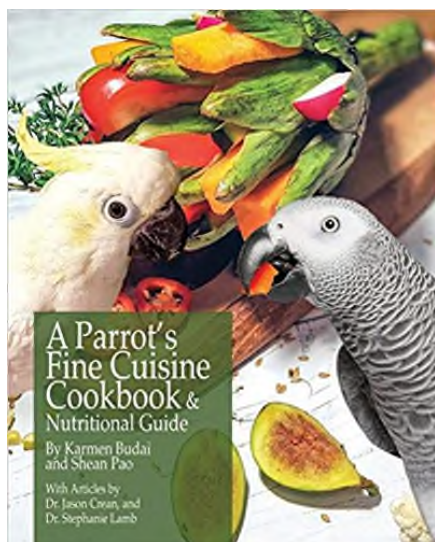


TOPS pellets, if you're planning to use pellet food, are the best on the market. ~~But their "small" that I've linked to isn't small enough. You can get around this by running the food through a chopper, or by serving them moistened.~~ Wow! In the few weeks since I wrote that, TOPS came out with a smaller "Mini Pellet". My finches are at least trying it, though I'm positive somebody will say it is simply not small

enough. If you feel that way, try chopping it, or moisten it, and/or mix it up with fresh veggies and chop it, to sort of mix it in.

Now, it seems like everybody has jumped on the pellet-food bandwagon, and even your vet might tell you to feed only or mostly pellets. However, my family eats a plant based diet, so of course we researched that for our birds. We found out that plants (veggies and a small bit of fruit) are fantastic for finch health, and sprouts are even better!

So now “Chop” is an important part of our flock’s diet. They get it early in the day so that we can remove it a few hours later. Except there’s rarely any left to remove. If you want to get started right away with chop, try mixing some fresh or frozen vegetables (canned veggies have too much salt) and offer them raw: maybe broccoli, peas, kale or spinach leaves. If you’re really into cooking or you are the kind of person who needs a recipe to follow, I can’t recommend this book enough:



### [A Parrot's Fine Cuisine](#)

This is a great guide with fun foods for larger birds than ours. However, there is so much more than recipes. It has nutrition guides, tips, and ideas that you’ll love... sorry to sound like a commercial... I love the book.

I’ve also written my own guides to feeding birds. One is *Feeding Parrots*, and the other is *Feeding Finches*. These will be available soon; you can visit <https://www.GouldianGardens.com> to see if they’re out yet. The links **should** be given on this page as soon as the books are ready. If you think they should be and they’re not, drop me a line at [hello@GouldianGardens.com](mailto:hello@GouldianGardens.com).

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available now; you can visit this link to find it in paperback or eBook.

<https://amzn.to/307ASjD>

I also have a small, hand-bound book of recipes. It is \$5 + shipping at this link:

<https://tanyalogan.com/product/cooking-for-birds/>

## HOSPITAL KIT

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Sooner or later, you're going to need a hospital cage or quarantine quarters. We use these when our birds are sick, or when bringing in new birds that we want to keep separate from the rest of the flock at first.

Basically you need:

- A small cage or reptile tank
- A heat source
- A health booster like electrolytes with vitamins
- Something to stop bleeding
- Wound care

The cage or tank is self-explanatory. It doesn't take much room at all to quarantine a finch. Prevue makes a nice [small cage](#) that stores easily (it's about 6X9 inches).



These [Lizard breeding boxes](#) are something to consider; they're plastic, so they're more lightweight than a glass aquarium, and you can clean them easily.



The heater is something to watch carefully, because if it overheats the bird will die. If you can find a heating pad without auto-shutoff, that would work well. I [like this one from Sunbeam](#) because it's fairly small and it's a trusted brand.

Personally, I like a ceramic bulb better than anything else for heating a quarantine cage. [This is the one we have](#) (and right beside it is a coupon for 15% off, I don't know how long that will last). We place the heater on one end of the cage, maybe

with a cloth draped over 2 sides if it's chilly – and the other side is left open so the bird can escape the heat if needed.

Do NOT under any circumstances use the UVA/UVB Reptile lamps (sun lamps) on birds! These can result in blindness and/or severe burns. Even reptiles can be overexposed and die.

Next, a couple of emergency supplies.

If a bird bleeds heavily, it can die within a few moments. Please always keep a product on hand to keep this from happening.



[Pets Warehouse](#)



[Amazon](#)

And after bleeding has stopped, you'll want a product to protect it from germs. Here's one made specifically for animals – including birds.



## Conclusion

That's it! All the little things you might need to embark on a new life with finches. I hope this guide will help lead you to some of the best products. I know I myself have purchased something two or three times trying to find "the right" one. Hopefully – now you have! So you won't waste the same money and time I did.

Thanks for reading.

Tanya "Finchly" Logan

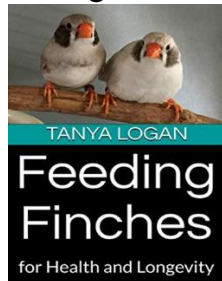
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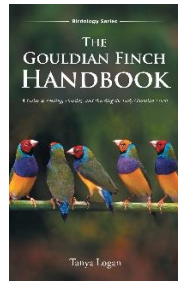
 JustFinchly

## My Books

Feeding Finches



The Gouldian Finch Handbook



Cooking for Birds



(coming next) The Congenial Cockatiel

