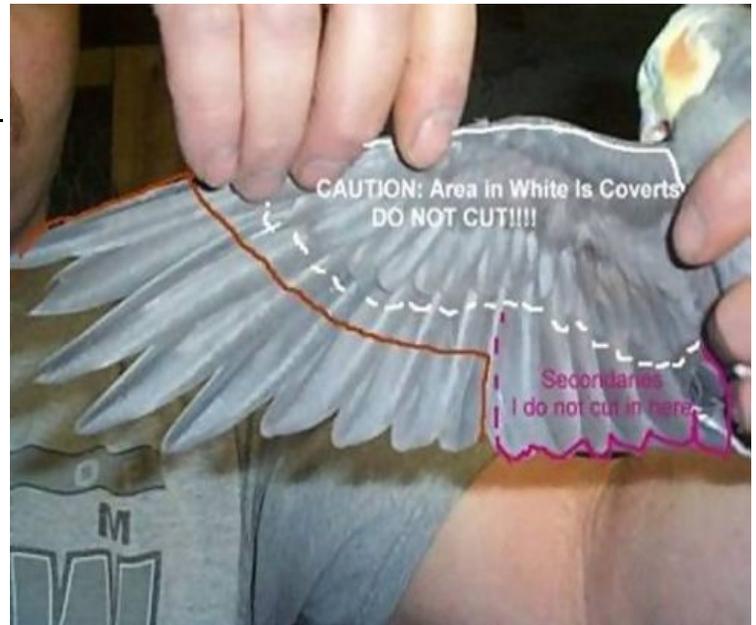


How to Clip Bird Wings

Detailed steps on how to clip bird wings

This is a basic guide that shows **how to clip bird wings**. In this we will explain the pros and cons of clipping your bird's wings, and will provide general guidance on how to do so. If you have questions, or are unsure of your abilities, it is recommended that you consult a professional [Veterinarian](#) or someone else with more advanced experience to assist.



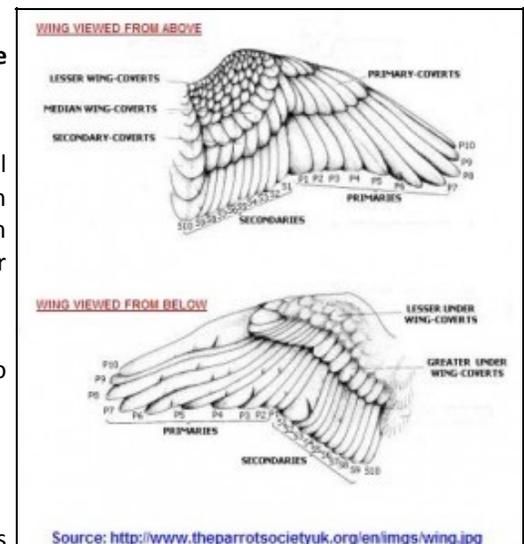
1. **Preparation** – Prepare a medium-sized towel wherein your bird can fit into when wrapped, a sharp scissor, and a styptic powder. Have a pair of needle-nose pliers and hemostats beside you, it may come in handy in case you accidentally cut a blood feather and need to cut it near the base area.
2. **Wrap your bird with a towel** – Drape the towel over both of your hands, gently toss and wrap the towel around your bird. Just make sure that its legs and feet are secured inside the towel to prevent them from scratching you and your assistant.
3. **Examine both wings** – Examine carefully and thoroughly the underside of **Repeat the steps with the other wing.**
4. **Test flight** – Let your bird try to fly and test its wings. A 15 feet flying distance is an ideal range for a newly clipped bird. If you are satisfied with the results, then you're done with clipping both of your bird's wings. Otherwise, try cutting one or two more feathers from each wing and then let your bird try flying again. Do this until you are satisfied with your bird's ability to fly properly within a short range and then being able to land gently.
5. **A thing to remember** – That once your bird molts for the first time, it's important to know that you would no longer need to cut as many feathers as you did the first time.

Pros and cons of clipping bird wings

There is a lot of controversy over clipping bird wings. A bird with unclipped wings has its freedom of flight which is a natural thing to them, and if you train your bird carefully you might even be able to get it to fly to you. However, if your bird has not had its wings clipped, it will be more prone to injury because it is more likely to fly into windows or crash into walls and furniture.

A bird with clipped wings has less chance of causing havoc around the house, and will be less-likely to fly away if it gets outside. The downside of clipping your bird's wings incorrectly or too short is that it can cause your bird to bleed and may cause enough damage to a point where the bird might not be able to fly again.

If you choose to clip your bird's wings, ensure that it has previously flown by means of its natural flying posture and in full control; this is in addition to you in having enough knowledge and experience on how to clip bird wings. It is strongly advised that you seek out a professional or someone you trust with more experience to assist you with this. The last thing you want is to cause injury to your bird due to lack of knowledge or understanding.



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What to expect after the first clipping

The confidence in birds lies in their being able to fledge. When you allow your baby bird to learn how to fly it gives them the ability to develop coordination and control. Your bird will learn to land with accuracy and control, and will flutter to other areas of your home with grace and confidence. Once a bird learns how to fly, the experience, skill, and balance will stay in your bird's memory for the rest of its life. If you allow your bird to experience flight before its wings are clipped, then it would be significantly less likely to injure itself after it's done.

Knowing how to clip bird wings correctly the first time

There are two huge factors that plays an important role in knowing [*how to clip bird wings*](#):

1. How many feathers to cut.
2. Where to cut the feathers.

By properly clipping or trimming your bird's wings, your bird will be able to fly with significantly-more control. It is extremely that important to do your own research and learn on how to clip your bird's wings correctly, if done incorrectly your bird may lose confidence and coordination due to the lack of ability to properly maneuver its body during flight, while climbing, or if falling.

Reasons why you should know how to clip bird wings correctly

- Their feathers cut edges won't be exposed thus reducing the chance of getting splintered or frayed. These cut edges are also being padded to prevent the bird from digging its flank area.
- The bird wing feathers are cut short when they start reaching the end of a long sweeping grooming stroke and can't pull in its half feathers properly.
- Another great reason is that when your bird's wings has been clipped, it reveals a beautiful scallop-shape on its upper wing; it also gives the bird a more professional and intriguing appearance. The best part is that its frayed and splintered shaft are gone and the ragged frizzed barbules no longer shows up. The clip that's been flattened out will look great.

It's important to note that although this cut eliminates possible splintering and frayed feathers, it is not a guarantee that the bird will never pluck. Often having several half cut feathers tend to result with irritation by using other cutting methods. The bird is inclined by instinct to keep its feathers primed and in good condition to avoid danger, and the proper cut will lower the risk of plucking due to the natural look and lack of damage or irritation by splintering.

Do I need to clip both wings on my bird?

The answer is YES. If clipping was done only on one side then your bird will be out of control when they flutter which may possibly lead to causing injury in flight or while landing. Confidence is everything to a bird, and clipping its wings is a very big deal; and by clipping only one wing you are decreasing your bird's confidence, which may lead to your bird's lack of appetite and may cause other health issues.