

TOP TEN TIPS



for your enjoyment
of backyard birds

1

Use the food or food combination that is most attractive to the birds you want to feed, and offer it in a feeder that accommodates their preferences.

2

Place feeders where you can easily watch them as part of your daily routine.

3

Avoid seed mixes with inexpensive filler seeds that birds don't eat.

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Front

4

Offer specialty seeds like safflower and nyjer straight, not in mixes. Safflower is useful for discouraging squirrels (and grackles) which dislike it, but if you mix it with seeds that squirrels do like, this value is lost.

5

If you see a baby bird in your yard, it is good to keep cats away but usually best to leave the bird alone.

6

Use suet cakes and bird cakes to attract woodpeckers and other insect-eating species.

7

Since most of the birds that eat millet are ground feeders, present your millet either on a platform feeder or directly on the ground.

8

Provide water for birds in either a birdbath or pond and be sure to change the water every 3 days to prevent mosquitoes from laying eggs. Remember that moving water is a magnet for birds.

9

Always choose bird feeders that have high bird appeal and, if necessary, use baffles or other methods to keep squirrels away. Birds prefer feeders that give them easy access to food, and some feeders designed to keep squirrels or large birds away receive fewer visits from small birds as well. To maintain the attractiveness of your feeder, keep all feeding ports and feeding areas clear of debris so that birds have easy access to food.

10

Reduce the amount of turf in your yard, and replace it with a variety of trees and shrubs for your yard to provide food, shelter, and nesting sites for birds year-round.

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