

## Procedure for Correct Wing Clip

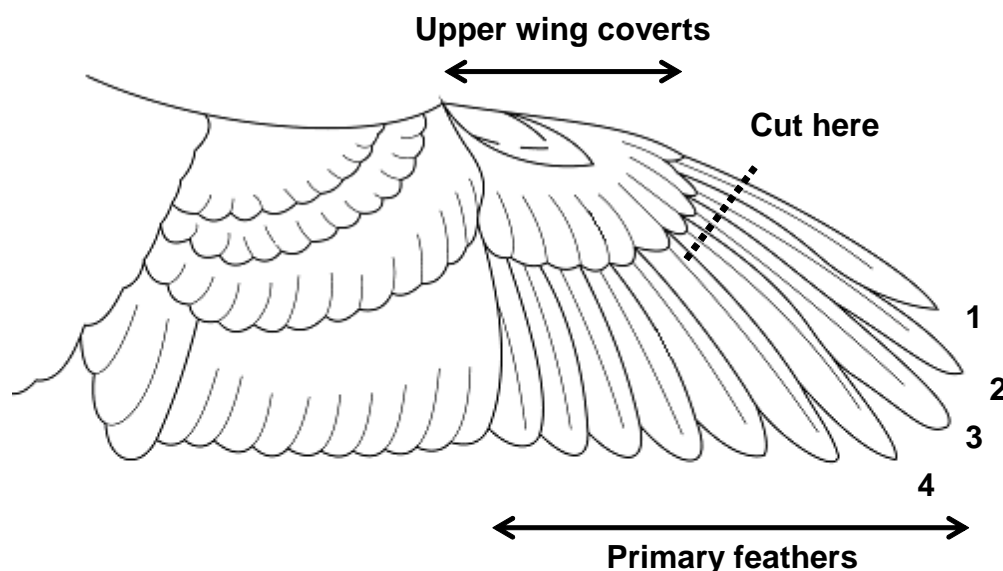
Ideally, birds are happiest when they have the ability of flight. Unfortunately this is not always possible.

There are many reasons we suggest wing trimming for companion birds.

### The correct wing trimming technique

*A wing trim when properly performed should not result in a bird that cannot fly, but a bird that can fly but cannot escape. The bird should not be able to develop lift. It should still be aesthetically pleasing.*

- It is preferable to have 2 people perform the wing trim
- For larger bodied birds, use a towel to hold the bird while the assistant extends and supports the wing
- For smaller birds, you may be comfortable just restraining the bird in your hand
- The first 4-6 primary feathers should be cut from both wings from the outside to inside below the level of the upper wing coverts
- Start with four primary flight feathers bilaterally then perform a test flight. If your bird is still able to get vertical lift while flying you can progressively trim one more feather from each side until no lift is achieved and only graceful flight to the ground occurs.



## A few more tips

- No wing trim is a guarantee against flight.
- If possible give the bird a test flight to ensure the bird cannot achieve elevation.
- Birds will replace these trimmed feathers with each moult. So remember birds will be able to fly after each moult
- Birds moult flight feathers once a year at the end of breeding season (Late Spring / Early Summer)
- Light bodied birds (including cockatiels, budgies, finches and canaries) with well developed flight muscles may be difficult to 'de-flight'

We are more than happy to show you the correct wing trimming procedure. If you require any further information please do not hesitate to call.