

EMERGENCY FEEDING GUIDE

These emergency feeding guides are exactly that. They will suffice for one or two feeds only until the recommended diet can be obtained. Most birds WILL die without the proper recommended diets.

Birds of Prey

Day old frozen chicks are widely available from farm shops, good pet stores, and reptile stores. If you cannot find any, obtain a can of feline a/d and a 20 ml syringe from your vet. Mix the a/d with a little water and VERY slowly syringe the mix into the bird's mouth. These birds need chopped chicks or chopped mice asap. If none of these are available, you can use thin strips of raw beef for one or two feeds only.

Garden Birds – Insect Eaters *(Blackbirds, Thrushes, Starlings, Tits, Swifts, Martins, robins, Wrens, Woodpeckers)*

Mash up a can of chicken flavoured pedigree chum, mixed in a blender with water to form a smooth paste and use the flat end of a teaspoon handle or a blunted cocktail stick to feed the bird. Do not dig for worms as the gut contents of these can sometimes be toxic to baby birds.

Garden Birds – Seed Eaters *(Sparrows, Finches,)*

Egg food available from pet stores can be mixed with water and blended to a fine paste. Alternatively, you can use the same food as for insect eaters.

Garden Birds – Crop Feeders *(Pigeons, Doves)*

Ready Brek or soaked porridge oats, blended to a fine paste will work as a temporary measure but does not have the required vitamins to be used on a long term basis. If you do not have the equipment to crop feed, brown bread, soaked in water and rolled between finger and thumb can be inserted into the mouth towards the back of the throat. You will need to do this approximately 10 times per feed. It is stressful for the bird and should be used for only one or two feeds.

Corvids *(Crows, Magpies, Rooks, Jackdaws, Jays)*

A mashed up quality dog food is fine, but should be mixed with a vitamin powder such as SA37 as soon as possible.

Waterfowl *(Ducks, Geese, Swans)*

Brown bread soaked in water will suffice on a short term basis

Gamebirds *(Partridges, Pheasants)*

Ready brek or soaked porridge oats, blended to a fine paste and fed to the chick from a blunted cocktail stick will suffice as a temporary measure. You will need to feed the bird about 1ml every couple of hours and so this method will be time consuming.