Moving with birds requires careful planning and consideration to ensure their safety and well-being throughout the process. Here are some tips and tricks for moving with birds

- 1. **Prepare in Advance**: Start preparing for the move well in advance to minimize stress on your birds. Gather all necessary supplies and plan the logistics of the move especially if you are moving out of state.
- 2. **Secure Transport Carrier**: Use a sturdy and well-ventilated carrier specifically designed for birds. Ensure the carrier is large enough for your bird to move comfortably and perch inside.
- 3. **Familiarize Birds with Carrier**: Introduce your birds to the carrier gradually in the days leading up to the move. Place treats and familiar toys inside to make it a positive and comfortable space for them.
- 4. **Cover Carrier During Transport**: Cover the carrier with a lightweight cloth or towel during transport to provide a sense of security and reduce stress from external stimuli. Make sure the cloth is breathable fabric.
- 5. **Temperature Regulation**: Ensure the carrier is kept at a comfortable temperature during transport, avoiding exposure to extreme heat or cold. You may need to plan your travel around the weather, especially depending on the size of your bird.
- 6. **Secure Perches**: Place secure perches inside the carrier to allow your birds to perch comfortably during the journey. With a cage they can often be zip-tied down. For more Stability you can tie the perch also to the top of the cage
- 7. **Limit Food and Water**: Offer a light meal to your birds before the move to minimize the risk of motion sickness. Provide a small amount of water in a spill-proof container during transport. A spray bottle can be a great way to cool them down and provide them with water and something to occupy them.
- 8. **Keep Noise Levels Low**: Minimize noise and disturbances during the move to reduce stress on your birds. Avoid loud music or sudden noises that could startle them.
- 9. **Secure Cage in Vehicle**: Secure the carrier or cage in the vehicle to prevent shifting or tipping during transport. Avoid placing it near airbags or in direct sunlight.
- 10. **Maintain Routine**: Stick to your birds' regular feeding, watering, and sleeping schedules as much as possible during the move and upon arrival at the new location.
- 11. **Provide Familiar Items**: Place familiar toys, perches, and bedding inside the new cage or aviary to help your birds feel more at home in their new environment.
- 12. **Monitor Health**: Keep an eye on your birds' behavior, appetite, and overall health before, during, and after the move. Contact an avian veterinarian if you notice any signs of stress or illness.

MOVING TOOLS & EOUIPMENT By incorporating these additional tips into your moving plan, you can help ensure a safe and comfortable journey for your feathered companions.

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- 13. **Prepare a Travel Kit**: Pack a travel kit with essential supplies such as bird food, water, a first aid kit, and any medications your birds may need during the move. This will also include non emergency items like a cage cover, spray bottle, and treats.
- 14. **Secure Flighted Birds**: If your birds are flighted, consider using a harness or flight suit to secure them during transport to prevent accidental escapes. These can be purchased online.
- 15. **Minimize Changes**: Try to keep your birds' environment as consistent as possible during the move. Use the same type of bedding, perches, and cage setup in the new location to provide familiarity.
- 16. **Provide Enrichment**: Offer enrichment activities such as toys, puzzles, and foraging opportunities to keep your birds occupied and mentally stimulated during the move and adjustment period. If they are busy they won't have time to stress as much.
- 17. **Introduce Birds to New Space Gradually**: Once you arrive at the new location, gradually introduce your birds to their new surroundings. Start by placing them in a quiet, secluded area and gradually allow them to explore the rest of the space at their own pace. Make sure you are aware of places they may escape or areas they could get out of reach.
- 18. **Maintain Safety**: Be mindful of potential hazards in the new environment, such as open windows, ceiling fans, or other pets. Take precautions to ensure your birds' safety at all times.
- 19. **Provide Comfort and Reassurance**: Spend quality time with your birds, offering comfort, reassurance, and positive reinforcement to help them feel secure and settled in their new home.
- 20. **Stay Calm and Patient**: Birds are sensitive to their owners' emotions, so try to stay calm and patient throughout the moving process. Your positive attitude will help reassure your birds and make the transition smoother for everyone.

