

# Budgerigars I did it my way

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(Well with a little help from my friends)

## Background

I have had budgies for about 20 years. I left the show side and the BS around 2005 due to personal reasons and some very poor breeding seasons. I did keep pet type birds for a while but just missed the shows, clubs and friends. The pet type birds did allow me to go back to basics and made me change my management and wow did it with 100 chicks each year. I returned to the BS as a novice and showing birds in 2010 I joined South Hants BS club and rejoined Dorset.

My set up has change so much but the original shed is still with me just rebuilt and made bigger.



12ft x 7ft in 2004 its 3<sup>rd</sup> home since I built it from scratch way back.

2010 2011 breeding seasons saw me start to breed and sell a lot of birds to fund the biggest rebuild I have ever done (it will be the last). Stage one pictured below saw the shed grow to 12ft x 10ft. with a half flight inside an outside flight and 18 cages.

From them I breed some 110 chicks I kept only around 20 of the best show birds.



I have always had wooden cages but do feel they could be improved on.

Then at the end of 2011, I did stage two, what a stage this was it nearly broke me but man I am glad I did it.



At the almost finished stage November 2012 it is now 20ft x 10ft with an outside flight of 8ft x 10ft.

At this stage I really wanted to do it my way, so it suited me and how I think the birds want to breed, I sacrificed totally finishing it in one go so I could get it right. I wanted all wire cages, Aluminum flight panels and running water but that all cost, so I have added a stage 3 to be done over the coming years.



Second hand wire cages were purchased which I converted to suite my way and my 2012 Christmas present was aluminum inside flight which was installed. The door at the end goes into the outside flight; I like to do bath water daily so nice and easy now. I also have a sink to go in drainage and pipes are in place just awaiting connection. The flight is from Rosemead Aviaries and is 10ft x 3ft.



Perches still to sort but pop hole ready, the flap is on hinges and get closed at night once all in.



These are my modified cages they are 2ft deep by 18ins wide it's made great use of the space being this way round. I have cut the hole in the front so the nest box goes inside and is held at the front with cable ties. I have added the wooden tray by cutting the front away and it just slides in and out on the wire base I am not happy with wire floors, I would rather clean out more often. I had to make the door bigger and add a strengthening strip along the bottom the door is held shut by a peg for now. At the moment I am using open dishes in the cages for seed but long term I will go over to some sort of hopper.



This is the brackets I made to fit either of the cages to the wall 2 per cage. I really didn't like the cup hooks.

I have also bought in a wire cage but found that there is not enough room for all the bits and pieces feeder, chick hide and soft food pots. I even modified these by removing the wire floor and cutting it up to make sides at the bottom as the cap around the tray was a bit big, a good cage for the price though.





The cage I will be looking at next is similar to the one pictured below it is sold by the same company supa-pets via their web Page, but I won't get so many of them on the wall I may even make some more of the wire ones just better.



At the time of writing this article April 2013 I have 20 pairs up some in the cages pictured and some in the original wooden cages. Out of the 20 pairs only 7 are show type the rest are foster and seed money birds. I have rung 59 chicks from the 7 show pairs, good fertility and lots of room to grow into.

If you would like to see more please visit my web page and please leave a comment.

<http://www.neilcawley.webs.com/>

A “few” of my own rung birds below:



