

## Finch Feeding Tips:

Unlike most other birds that come to our feeders, Goldfinches eat seed almost exclusively. In fact, unlike many other Finches, Goldfinch chicks are fed few, if any, insects. Instead, they get the same seeds their parents eat. When a parent returns to feed its young, its crop is full of partially digested seed (enough to feed the whole brood). Because of the amount



SE324C  
Copper Finches  
Favorite 3-Tube

of food brought each time, the young are only fed twice each hour. Perched at, and around, the feeders, Goldfinches eat seed after seed. It gives us a wonderful opportunity to watch them at length. We love the Songbird Essentials™ Spiral Feeder as it has more openings per inch of feeder than standard “Perch Restricted” feeders. Also, its “Flip N’Fill™” feature means you can fill it from the top one time, and the bottom the next. This means seed never gets old in the bottom of the feeder. Many people come in and complain “Finches” don’t eat the seed at the bottom. This happens when seed gets packed down and draws moisture when always filled from the top. Either get a Songbird Essentials feeder or remember to dump out and mix old seed in the bottom of the feeder with new seed and then refill. Both solutions will help you attract more Finches.



SEBQSBF5Y  
36 in. Yellow  
Spiral Finch Tube



SE612  
Finch Magic  
Thistle Sack

One of the keys to keeping Goldfinches around is eliminating their need to compete. Goldfinches will often just give up and fly away when other species crowd around a feeder. To enjoy Finches when they are bright gold, many people put out “extra” Finch Feeders utilizing inexpensive thistle sacks.

**Try It-It Works!**

## Gardening for Goldfinches

Habitat can also be a key to attracting Goldfinches. When utilized you do less work, not more. Don’t worry about dandelions! Goldfinches love ’em! Also, don’t cut off the tops of your Marigolds, Zinnias, Cosmos, or Coneflowers as Goldfinches love these as well.



SEBQSBF2G



### Want to Learn More?

Ask a store employee to play you the “Goldfinch Segment” of “Bird Man Mel’s In Your Own Backyard DVD”, or go to [www.birdmanmel.com](http://www.birdmanmel.com).



You’ll also find these and more great books as part of our Goldfinch Product Section. Whether you’re looking for beginner facts on attracting Goldfinches, or learning more about specific species, we have books you’ll enjoy!

**Want More Information** on Attracting Goldfinches to Your Yard? Ask any of our friendly, knowledgeable staff.



## Tips to Attracting Goldfinches To Your Backyard!

A favorite backyard songbird is the American Goldfinch... adored for their lemony color, graceful flight and enchanting song.

Many people call this bird the “Wild Canary.” Much of the public don’t realize that Goldfinches are not bright gold “all” year.

As the nesting season winds down and fall colors begin to appear, Goldfinches molt. That is, they replace their worn, tattered feathers with a set of fresh, new feathers.

The appearance of males changes drastically at this time. The brilliant yellow body feathers are replaced by dull brownish plumes and the striking black cap disappears. Females also molt, but their appearance doesn’t change.

Goldfinches wearing drab winter plumage flock to bird feeders.

Keep Finch feeders out year-round to enjoy their bright colors during warmer months.



# Tips And Products To Attract Goldfinches

## Goldfinch Facts

What is a group of these birds called? A charm of Goldfinches...

Goldfinches are primarily monogamous birds, but a few females will seek a different partner after producing the first brood. These prolific females leave their original mate behind to raise their fledglings, while they journey off to start a new family.

The American Goldfinch is the only member of its family to complete two full molts a year. All other species only molt once in the fall, but Goldfinches undergo a total molt of their body feathers in the spring as well (just in time for breeding season).

When other songbirds are finished with breeding season, the American Goldfinch is just getting started! They are one of the latest birds to breed (typically waiting until late June or early July).

You can encourage Goldfinches to nest in your yard by providing nest material including the following:



SEWF91010



SEWF91009



SE7021



SE7018

Nyer Seed resembles grains of wild rice and is covered by Goldfinches for its high fat and protein content. House Finches, Purple Finches, Towhees, Pine Siskins, and Juncos enjoy a little Nyer in their diet. Nyer imported into the United States has been heated to prevent it from germinating; thus, seed sprouting is not a concern.

Mixing Nyer seed with fine-chopped Sunflower Kernels reduces the mess on the yard and patio. Also, Pine Siskins, and others, like it better than straight Nyer. All Finch mixes require a special feeder with very small openings. Some of the best ones are listed on this page.

## Finch Friendly Feeders

SEBCO321 Apple Goldfinch Feeder

SE650 Finch Magic Thistle Sack White

SE112 Finches Favorite, 12in Single Tube Feeder

SEBQSBF5C Also available in Green & Yellow.

SE613 Jumbo Finch Magic Thistle Sack

SE324 Finches Favorite 3-Tube Feeder Also available in Copper (See Back).

SE7011 Clinger's Only Also available in Red & Green.

SEBQSBF2Y 17in Spiral Finch Tube Also available in Silver, Copper, Black, & Green.

SEBQSBF5Y 36in Spiral Finch Tube Also available in Green & Copper.

SESAN93008 Cage protects Finch mixes & Thistle from squirrels & larger birds.

## Gifts For Goldfinch Lovers

**Cutting Board**  
TT93071 - Small  
TT93072 - Medium

**Card**  
MM126H

**Bookmark**  
MB1276

**Memo Pad**  
SEEK8509 Memo Pad

**Ornament**  
FWC102

**Flags**  
SEEK6609 - Garden Flag  
SEEK6709 - Large Flag

**Thermometers**  
ACCURITE1711  
ASPECTS259

**Singing Bird**  
WR77346  
EG84862 - Medium

**Windchimes**  
EG84858  
CHI75AG

**Flags - Signs - MatMates - Yard Designs - Mailbox Covers**  
MAIL95741  
MAIL75741  
MAIL35741  
MAIL15741  
MAIL5741