



Button Quail at a Glance

Difficulty of care: **Beginner to moderate**

Average lifespan: **4+ years**

Average adult size: **4–5”; 50–70 grams**

Diet: **Omnivorous**

Minimum habitat size: **24” x 24” x 24”
(1–2 birds)**

Temperature: **Up to 80 F**

Fun fact ↪ Button
quail are smaller and
quieter than true quail.



Enclosure Setup & Maintenance

- Button quail need a secure enclosure at least 24 x 24 x 24 inches for one to two birds, with more space for additional birds. Each bird should have about 8 cubic feet of space. While they stay mostly on the ground, the enclosure should still allow short flights. Avoid housing males together, as they may fight.
- Line the cage with soft bedding such as paper-based material, grass hay, or pine shavings. Keep food and water dishes slightly elevated to prevent contamination. Provide hideouts, plants, and toys to encourage natural behaviors and prevent boredom.
- Maintain temperatures at or below 80 F. Provide 10–12 hours of UV light daily if housed indoors. Spot-clean daily and perform a full cleaning weekly, replacing bedding and washing all accessories.

Supply Checklist

- Enclosure with bedding
- Food and water dishes
- High-quality pelleted food
- Fruits, vegetables, and live food treats
- Grit (digestible and indigestible)
- Hideouts and toys
- Dust bath container and dust



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Health

Healthy button quail are active, social, and have clear eyes and clean feathers.

- **Signs of illness:** Discharge, appetite loss, or abnormal droppings
- **Respiratory issues:** Wheezing or rapid breathing
- **Other concerns:** Feather loss or parasites

Provide dust baths regularly and schedule yearly vet checkups to maintain health.

Fun fact ↪ Females are larger, but males are more colorful.

Diet

Button quail should eat a high-quality pelleted food as their main diet. This provides the essential nutrients they need to stay healthy. Their diet can be supplemented with small amounts of fruits and vegetables, as well as live foods like mealworms and small roaches for added variety and protein.

Fresh, clean water should always be available. Female quail may also benefit from digestible grit, such as crushed oyster shells, to support egg production. Both males and females can be offered indigestible grit in small amounts to aid digestion, but it should not replace their primary diet.



Fun fact ↪ They cannot perch due to their foot structure.