

Recipes

Mineral Blocks #2

Mineral Blocks

These mineral blocks on the market are hard. Here is a basic recipe you can work with. Plaster of Paris is the hardening element. Try adding less of the plaster of

Paris than the recipe calls for.

2 cups plaster of paris
1 tablespoon calcium phosphate
1/4 teaspoon mineral oil
1/4 cup fine mineral grit
1 tablespoon of trace minerals

Trace minerals can be obtained from a veterinary supply house. The calcium phosphate can be purchased from a pet shop or supply house.

Mix the above ingredients with just enough water to make a very thick paste. The mixture is then poured into an cube tray until it starts to set up. When it is still soft, bend a piece of wire into a U shape. Place the wire down in the center of the cube. After drying back, the wire will make it possible to break the mineral block to a wire cage. Make sure blocks dry completely before using.

Plaster of Paris is a synthetic, man-made material, which is composed essentially of plaster or gypsum. It is often used to make the non-cement walls of garages or basements. The material is not toxic and will not harm the birds if they chomp out of your mineral block. Plaster of Paris is a stable material, so the mineral block will be suitable for your birds to use.

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