Donuts for Birds

Step 1. Estimate the length of the bird’s keel. Take a small piece of cloth or towel that is twice that length and roll it up. Bend it into a U shape. Secure the ends of the towel with white vet-wrap or paper tape. Do not use anything that can stick to feathers. Colored vet-wrap can leach ink onto feathers when wet, and can impact waterproofing, so use white vet wrap when possible.

Step 2. Place the bird on the donut, placing the top of the keel inside of the top of the U of the donut. The donut should fit so that the end of the keel is aligned with the end of the donut. The donut should suspend the keel up off of the ground.
Step 3. Attach the donut to the bird. Attach the front of the donut first by wrapping it around the apex of the u shaped donut up around the top of the bird. Then cross it to the back of the bird and wrap it around the birds’ abdomen twice. Finish by crossing back up to the front of the bird (creates an x on the back). This will secure the donut into place and prevent it from slipping off.

Step 4. Make sure the donut is comfortable for the bird. You should be able to easily insert two fingers behind the vet wrap at the birds neck (SHOWN). It is critical to monitor the bird closely for 30 minutes to ensure that the bird is not going to flip over with the donut.

Mt: ADD VIDEO.
After you have applied your donut check to make sure it isn't too tight and that the bird will be able to remain in a normal position. Check on it in the cage a couple times before leaving it on overnight.