

## How To Build A Cageoller

The cageoller concept, combining a cage and stroller, was one of Bobbie Kerns of Phoenix Landing. In her desire to take her Macaws and Amazons outdoors for some sunshine & fresh air, she needed a way to keep the birds safe and secure, but easily mobile. So necessity being the mother of invention, she came up with this idea, which I have adapted to fit the needs of my birds as well.

What follows are photos of several types of cageollers, and general directions on their assembly. Depending on the type of bird you have, your access to cages or carriers, and the money you are willing to spend, you will need to adapt these directions to fit your own situation.

### Ariel's (the first) Cageoller



This was my first cageoller, and was given to me by Bobbie's husband, John.

The base is from an old style baby buggy, the kind with a removable bassinet carrier. These are difficult to find in the US, but are very popular in Europe.

It originally had a 24"x19"x21" wire dog crate as the cage part, but the 1 1/2" bar spacing was too large for Ariel's little Panama Amazon head. A friend had given me this cage which I had already been using to take Ariel outside in (but I had to carry around and find somewhere stable to set down). I removed the tray from the bottom and was able to fasten it to the stroller base using zip ties (also known as cable ties).

Here are the zip ties (blue) attaching the cage to the stroller frame.



But, as you can see, the powder coating is starting to peel off this old cage, and it is in need of replacement.

## Trixie's Wagon

From the day I knew that we would be getting Trixie, I began looking for a second stroller base to build a cageoller for her. I had no luck finding another like Ariel's, and upon meeting Trixie, a BIG Blue & Gold Macaw, realized I needed something bigger anyway. We had an old wire dog crate in our attic that would work as a cage section, and I just needed to find a base. While glancing through one of my husband's tool catalogs, Harbor Freight Tools, I noticed an add for a flat (no sides) powder coated steel garden wagon. I checked the measurement of the wire crate, 36" long x 23" wide x 24" high, and realized it would fit nearly perfectly on the 24"x48" wagon, all the better that it was on sale! I removed the bottom plastic tray from the wire crate, and again used zip ties to attach the two together, trimming off the excess of the tie. I initially replaced the plastic tray, but realized that without the tray, poop, and water from misting, and pieces of food could fall straight through into the grass, resulting in less required clean-up.



Harbor Freight Tools  
Steel Flat Rack Wagon  
By Haul Master



Crate attached to bed of wagon



Close up of trimmed zip tie



With plastic tray still in place.



With tray removed.

## The search continues

As I am continuing to foster various birds for Phoenix Landing, I continued my search for baby carriage bases, still with no luck, so I consulted the Cageoller creator, Bobbie, again. She was now buying used Snap-N-Go stroller bases, made by Baby Trend. This is a stroller base designed for a baby car seat to be snapped into place, and comes in a single and double model. These can be found for sale on Craig's List.

Bobbie uses the double stroller frame with a large wire dog crate, like I used for Trixie's wagon, for her Macaws & larger Amazons.



Single Stroller



Double Stroller

One could simply use a standard smaller bird cage, or a carrier, With appropriate bar spacing for birds with smaller heads, for cageoller tops, the the appropriate Snap-N-Go base. I have used a double stroller base, and simply set the entire cage of a foster Quaker on it, and using the straps intended to hold the car seat in place, run them through the bottom of the cage to secure it.

In my continuing search for travel cages or carriers, I came across King's new aluminum travel cages, they all have 5/8" bar spacing, this would work for all but the smallest birds. The larger one is 20x29x20, the smaller one is 18 1/2x16 1/2x 18. Aluminum is very light weight, will not chip, flake or rust like powder coating. I will admit they are pricey, but I look at it as a long term investment. So my newest cageollers are made with the Kings carriers and Snap-N-Go bases, I have removed the bottom storage pocket from the stroller and left the tray out of the carrier, again so that poop can fall through to the grass. I have used the zip ties again, but bungee cords could also be used, especially on occasions when you are driving your bird to an outing, and need the ease of separating the carrier from the stroller.



Hermiony's cage on a double stroller

So go find a cage or carrier appropriate for your bird, pick up a stroller or wagon, build your own cageoller, and get outside this summer!



Tahiti in large Kings carrier with double stroller



Two small Kings carriers on a double stroller, for transporting 2 birds at once.

Contact Mary at [mary@phoenixlanding.org](mailto:mary@phoenixlanding.org) for pricing and availability if interested in purchasing a Kings carrier.