

Australian Magpie (*Cracticus tibicen*) ^{7,8}

Adult Weight	220-350g (heavier in the south).
Natural Diet	Insects & larvae, earthworms, spiders.
Secondary Diet	Small vertebrates (reptiles, mammals, birds), carrion, plant material.
Captive Diet	Insectivore Meat Mix (Appendix 1). Earthworms, crickets, mealworms, woodies. Occasional whole or chopped mice.
Juvenile Diet	As per adult diet. Insectivore may be made up as moist pellets (Appendix 1).



Age = 3 weeks

Growth & Feed Chart^a

Age (weeks)	Developmental Stage	Bill (mm)	Weight ^b (g)	Feed ^c (g/day)
Hatch	Blind, pink & naked. Egg tooth present.	18	15	9
1	Eyes closed, fine downy feathers on head & back, pin feathers on wings.	22	70	25
2	Eyes open at 10 days. Pin feathers erupting into black & white plumage.	26	135	40
3	Fully-feathered, vocalising loudly.	31	220	50
4	Brancher. Tail <50mm.	40	270	
5	Fledging. Learning to fly. Tail 50-100mm.	48	280	
8	Independent. Self-feeding. Tail >100mm.	50		
Adult	Size varies between individuals.	52	300	55
		55	350	

- a. Based on larger birds from south-east Australia. Birds from other regions may have lower weight for age.
- b. Weight is not an accurate indicator of age. Average weight gain in first 4 weeks is 7 -12g/day.
- c. Feed rate is based on Insectivore Meat Mix, should be adjusted for calorific density of other foods.

Adult Maintenance Diet

300g adult requires 50g/day (450kJ)

- 35g **Insectivore Meat Mix** – (3½ tablespoons).
- 8g Earthworms (approx. 15 x worms).
- 4g Crickets (approx. 12 x crickets).
- 3g Mealworms (approx. 25 x mealworms).

Mice may be substituted for part of the diet.