

## WHAT IS A HACK BOX?

Hack boxes originated with falconry, but their use has expanded to rescue and rehabilitation. They provide shelter from the elements, protection from predators, a covered balcony, and are large enough for the birds to exercise a bit, so they can gain or regain flight strength and hunting skills before being reintroduced to the wild.



Hack boxes are made so that at least one side of the box has bars or screens, but is otherwise open to the outside so the birds can observe their surroundings but can't leave the box. Our avian team provides food daily (without being seen), so the birds learn that the box is a reliable source of food.

When the birds have matured, the bars or screens are removed and the birds are free to perch on the outside, exercise their wings, and to come and go as they please. Food is provided less often, and as they fledge and become proficient at hunting, the birds return to the box less and less often, until they don't return at all.