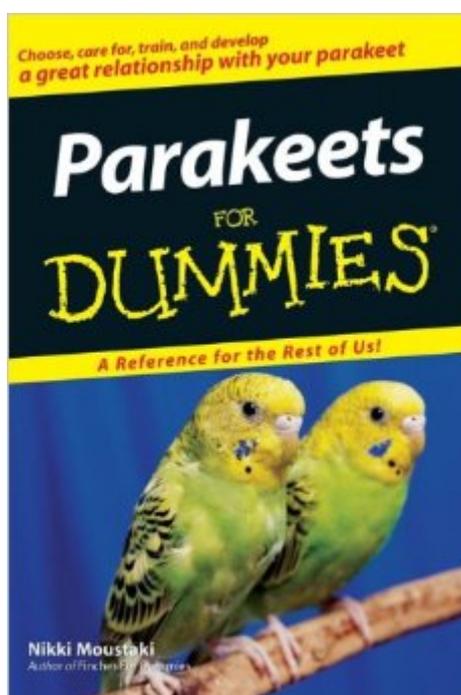


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Parakeets For Dummies



Synopsis

Create a "home tweet home" for this colorful, lively bird. This plain-English guide helps readers find the right parakeet and offers expert advice on feathering his nest, from setting up the cage and selecting foods to keeping messes at bay. Readers will discover how to groom a parakeet, recognize the symptoms of illness, and keep a parakeet safe from other pets. They will also see how to teach a parakeet to talk, understand parakeet behavior, and find an avian veterinarian.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book starts off with one of my pet peeves - giving the name American Parakeet to the sweet little Australian Budgie or Budgerigar. They are not American birds at all - although they certainly are one of many different parakeets. The author, Nikki Moustaki is very knowledgeable about these wonderful birds. She gives excellent advice on deciding if a budgie is right for your home. Throughout the book, markings in the margins indicate interesting and helpful tips, warnings and reminders. The chapter "Polly Want a Cracker?" has excellent advice on feeding your budgie. Of course variety is essential and Nikki gives a great list of foods to provide interest and variety. The chapter "Come Here Often?" provides great information to help you understand common budgie behaviours, including some problem behaviours. The author also provides great taming and training advice here. It is obvious while reading this book that Nikki Moustaki loves these little birds. She talks about her own Parakeets/Budgies as examples, telling us what they enjoy. This is a great book for beginners and even experienced budgie owners may find information that they didn't know before.

I am a newbie about parakeets and needed a basic guide to help me treat these birds well. This book does just that. It answers questions and gives me insight into these fascinating, quirky birds.

As someone who thought they would never own a bird I was clueless when I was given a baby parakeet from a friend. I needed a crash course to figure out how to not kill my new pet. This book gave a great crash course in how to correctly care for and protect my parakeet, as well as a lot of very interesting tid bits on how to train and entertain my new family member.

The author has done an admirable job in encapsulating the essence of owning a parakeet. There is good information here for those who may never have considered owning a budgerigar (parakeet). Reading through the rather brief volume, however, I found a disturbingly-conservative approach which suggests that the supposedly-low maintenance bird is actually a lot of work (with an almost Victorian cleaning routine and overly-cautious advice to pre-screen even branches brought in from outside for the cage). The author seems to welcome bird ownership but wants to warn prospective owners of the constant perils and responsibilities. It's a bit disorganized in approach, despite the division of chapters and sections. The point of view of the author is full of unintended contradictory information, though this isn't flagrant. I was shocked to find an e-mail-grade typo in one of the early chapters. True proof-reading requires more than a spell-check run-through. Additionally, the book should be divided between those who have children in the house and those who do not. Furthermore, there is far too little information here about taming birds and different scenarios which may inform various methods. The appendix is filled with expired URL's - about half of which now point to Web hosts. In summary, though this is a good volume, I get the impression the author was hurrying to get it to press without making sure it was perfect or at least better-organized. Somehow, even the sale price of \$6.99 (Kindle price) seemed a tad high, given the editing this volume. I expected better and certainly more.

A really informative book, with plenty of humor to keep things entertaining. It gives a really good picture of the many pleasures of owning a budgie -- and points out the "problems". Budgies are very intelligent and entertaining, but are small parrots -- with all of the seed-slinging, chewing everything, loudness, and relentless curiosity. A good book.

Easy to understand for this "dummy". The poor, starved parakeet I found while walking along the

bike path in the Fla. Keys a few months ago is now a happy, healthy girl who loves to play and is beginning to try a couple of words!

This book was spectacular, just exactly what I was looking for. Lots of information about keet background and behavior. Plenty of pointers and useful tips for beginning parakeet parents and enthusiasts.

As a new parakeet owner, I found this book very informative. It includes tips on:- Telling the difference between the English budgie and American parakeet, and how to decide which you want- Behavior, and what to look for when selecting a bird- How and when to get started training- Signs of illness/injury, first aid, and how to make a hospital cage to keep your bird in until you can get him/her to the vet- Feeding: what overall type of diet is best, which foods are safe and which to avoid- Basic cage setup- Acclimation and taming- Wing and nail trimming- One parakeet, or a pair of 'keets?- Bird-proofing your house or a room- Teaching your bird to talk (Did you know male parakeets can learn *hundreds* of words and phrases? I didn't!)Doesn't include much information on specific vocalizations or housetraining. It's also a little repetitive, but the information presented is good.

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