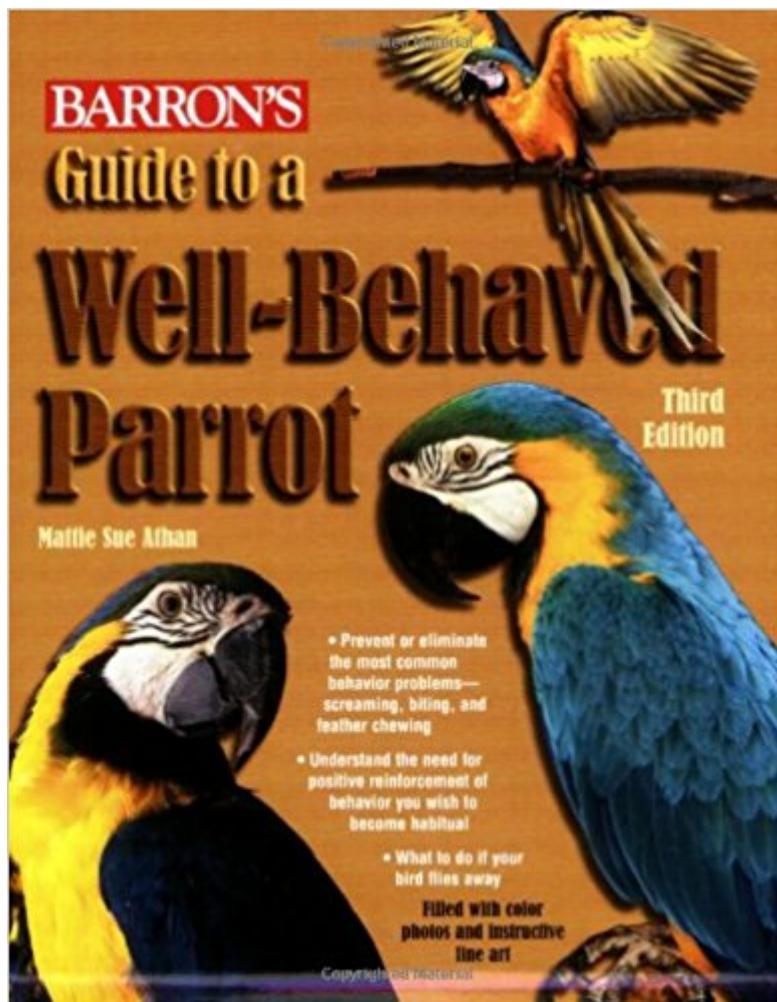


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# Guide To A Well-Behaved Parrot (Barron's)



## Synopsis

This expanded new edition of a popular parrot-training book explains parrot psychology and discusses the ways in which parrot owners can apply it to solve behavior problems. The author cites the most common problems—screaming, biting, and feather-chewing—and tells how to remedy them. She also stresses the need for periodic reinforcement of desirable parrot behavior traits and advises on many aspects of good parrot care, including proper nutrition and providing the bird with steady companionship. The text is complemented with many attractive and instructive color photos and line art.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

(back cover): An expert on parrots and their care explains parrot behavior management and tells you how to use environment and positive reinforcement to prevent and resolve behavior problems. She advises on how to solve the most common problems—screaming, biting, and feather-chewing—and stresses the need for periodic reinforcement of desirable parrot behavior. This expanded new edition tells you what you need to know about virtually every aspect of good parrot care, including proper nutrition and providing the bird with a rich, supportive environment. Filled with color photos and instructive line art

Mattie Sue Athan is a widely respected expert on parrots and their care. She contributes regularly to bird-care periodicals and is also the author of *Parrots: A Complete Pet Owner's Manual* and co-author of *The African Grey Parrot Handbook*, both published by Barron's.

This is a very good book, which helped me raise my first parrot to a successful relationship over 17 years. She has one recommendation, or bias, which I didn't follow and don't agree with: She described how to raise a parrot without letting the parrot bond to you. This may be a wise recommendation for those who don't want the closest possible relationship with the parrot. This is not, however, what the bird wants or what you may want. My parrot bonded to me and we were very close, without her being jealous or attacking my wife. (She was a Caique, which is an atypical parrot species.) Many successful parrot owners have found a bonded relationship very fulfilling for both the owner and parrot. My avian vet has a different bias which I definitely don't agree with: She believes that you should buy a pair of parrots and let them socialize and bond with each other, instead of you. One thing about Athan's book that is extremely good advice, is never to use violence or force in trying to socialize your parrot. Your parrot will return violence or fear. Gentle, nurturing dominance, is the only wise method.

Great book on parrot behavior. Many common problems are addressed -- like feather picking/plucking, biting, chewing and yes screaming. Very pretty color photographs. Reinforce positive behavior is key to a well-behaved parrot. Lots of information, well constructed, great resource, and easy to read. Great guide prior to getting a parrot (perspective parrot companion). Learn to understand parrot psychology. NEGATIVE The author in my opinion is totally wrong with advice on not allowing a parrot to bond with you. The bonding is crucial for the bird and is extremely necessary according to other parrot behaviorists and authorities.

My parrot is 32 years old ... adopted when he was two. We have a good relationship ... at least we had until a few months ago. I couldn't understand his body language. A bit of history ... We've moved a couple of times in the past 10 years. It's well known that it takes birds a couple years to adapt to new environs. Now that we live in the Midwest with constantly changing weather patterns, it's been difficult for him to adapt. It didn't help that I was having trouble keeping a consistent schedule for him as I adapted. I started reading this book the day it arrived. It had the answers I needed to know how to make my pet's homelife better and improve his behavior. s are good adaptors, so I needed to do the work this time. And this book really helped. Mostly with different things to make his cage cozier, his play gym more fun, and his routine more consistent. The games suggested in the book have also helped. My likes the hide-and -seek game, but now has learned a couple more games mostly to forage for his favorite treat-homemade popcorn. There's also excellent

information on preparing for emergencies and disasters, and gives real-life examples, which help a lot. Even though I have other bird books, and subscribed to BirdTalk for dozens of years, this book gives even more. PepperP.S. My avian vet recommended this book to me when he examined my . The bird was cranky, hard to please. Turns out he felt insecure, and unsafe. Patience, using suggestions in the book, and a good diet have made him a happy camper. I highly recommend this book to other companion bird owners.

I purchased the book with expectations of poor quality as some of the guide-kind of book have sometimes. But I was nicely surprised by the quality of the print, well written. Explanations of the behavior of parrots is a solid base to understand the behavior of the pet birds. I have not finished the book because i received it today. (by the way- it was faster shipped than expected) I would recommend it to everyone who has a parrot of at least medium size. The bigger the parrot, the more needy it is, so anyone less experienced should read it. I am first time owner of an African Grey, and she still is a baby (only 8 weeks now). I have four parakeets at home but they didn't seem to be complicated at all in the way they behave. So if you are afraid of a strong beak but have the love and patience, better read as many books as possible and apply this knowledge in practice. we are humans and we need right sources to guide us. If the book can help you to solve or prevent some problems in behavior of your parrot, I do recommend it! i will update my review soon once I read the whole book.

This book is great for new bird to perhaps experienced parrots. It is a quick reference type read, but packed with useful information along with helpful pictures. I recommend this book to anyone thinking about getting a parrot or anyone who has one as this book touches on parrot behavior, what to expect and how to curb unwanted behaviors.

I realize now all the weird things he does are pretty normal behavior. Most helpful were the references to wild parrots, and how their natural behavior regarding predators, parrot group social behavior, ect. show up in a 'pet' parrot. I would have liked a little guidance on feeding. I may be feeding my little guy too many sweets or not enough vegetables. Also, they could have included more info on the details of cage cleaning. For us beginners these things are important. After two weeks of parrot ownership, (if you can call it that), I realize research, especially before purchase, and also after, is key. I was lucky to get my especially good-tempered little friend. (Well, he has insane fits, but for a parrot, he is good-tempered...)UPDATE: Now it's 2009, April, and sweet little

Lucky is tearing down curtains, chewing the mouldings, and eating the wallpaper, but I wouldn't have him any other way. But I appreciate all the helpful advice I got from books in those early days! Although I still have the book I can't claim "Well-Behaved" status though. ;)

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