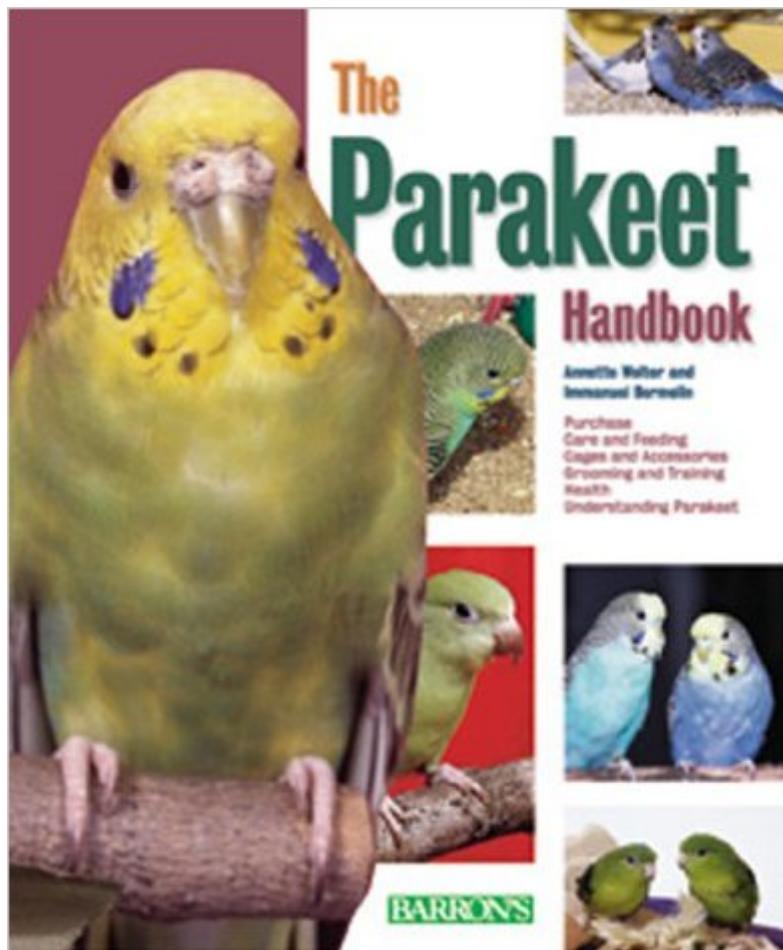


The book was found

# The Parakeet Handbook (Barron's Pet Handbooks)



## **Synopsis**

These fascinating birds are green as they are found in their native Australian environment, but selective breeding in captivity has resulted in a stunning variety of colors. Here is virtually everything a prospective parakeet owner needs to know about keeping one or more of these birds. Titles in Barron's popular Pet Handbooks series instruct pet owners on health care, proper feeding and housing, and other facts important to owners and their pets. All books in this series have high quality, full-color photos, instructive line drawings, and run to an average of approximately 140 pages or more.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I recently acquired 2 gregarious parakeets (Budgies, more specifically) and have found this book to be a wonderful resource regarding the proper care of my new friends. It also offers a wealth of information about behavior (why they do some of the crazy things they do) and health problems to be on the lookout for. I feel like a much better prepared bird owner having read this book, it was a great place to start.

Very informative book. I decided to buy 2 birds after reading it! The author is extremely thorough in guiding the reader through all aspects of owning and caring for parakeets. She does, however, tend to be very open with her opinion on having a minimum of 2 birds, but not pushy about it either. I compared this book with several others from the library, and this is the most concise and easy to follow.

As far as I am concerned, when it comes to books on pet birds, Barron's books are the best. BUDGERIGARS by Immanuel Birmelin (translated by Matthew Vriendt) falls into this category, although it is somewhat condensed compared with a few other books on the market. However, Birmelin covers all the important issues, such as caging, food, and other aspects of maintenance that you need to know to get started taking care of a pet Budgie. My favorite section is about "playing" with your pet Budgie. Budgies are intelligent little parrots and you can have hours of fun if you choose to by providing them with sources of amusement. Birmelin lists 'The 10 Most Popular Games' you can play with your Budgie and "How-To: Fun and Games." Did you know you could play card games with Budgies? Although we never want to think about the possibility, sometimes a Budgie gets sick. Birmelin includes a section "If Your Bird Gets Sick" that gives you some ideas of what you can do besides get upset. In this section he includes a 'Checklist - Preventing Illness' which is helpful especially if this is your first bird. Keeping his cage clean is a good thing to do, and spending time with him every day will keep him happy. A happy Budgie is a healthy Budgie.

I recently acquired three budgies. So, as I gobble up as much information as I can about them via internet and books, I feel that this book is a definite keeper. It is more elaborate than most on issues of health and safety. I love that it pushes, to considerable extent, the need for budgies to be kept in multitudes (2 or more - same sex ok). What bothers me about this book is that one of the two authors as I understand it, Immanuel Birmelin, is also the original author (in German) of another Barron's budgie book under a different (American translation author?) name- Hildegard Niemann, each of which is in conflict with the other on certain key areas of budgie ownership. I have both and both books are good to have. This one, so far that I've found, is a better resource for health issues. The other seems rooted in more common sense in general care. The other books I've so far seen/read I am re-selling. They are too basic - too much like a care pamphlet one would pick up for free next to the bird display at a major pet store chain. Or geared to the young reader/pet owner.

This is a very detailed book on budgies. The book goes into detail about purchasing your first parakeet, to housing needs and accessories, budgie care and feeding, illnesses, care and grooming, feeding and treats, health, breeding, and understanding your parakeet's behavior. It has eight chapters with 151 pages. Very nice pictures. It discusses everything in full detail. The book even has a chapter devoted to the wild ancestors of our beloved pet budgies. Even after having kept my budgies for years, I've learned lots of new and useful information from this book. It's a must-have for every budgie owners bookshelf. Like many other pet books, author opinion plays a

large part in this one as well. Great resource, but again, don't rely solely on just this book. Add variety to your bookshelf, your budgie will appreciate it!

Oops! I actually posted my review under the wrong title. THIS is the book that you should read and keep on hand as a resource after. But after reading it I did end up getting a second parakeet and am so glad I did. I had my first parakeet for six weeks and after bringing home a second bird she was instantly more active and playful and seemed more comfortable with a bigger "flock" for security. This author didn't seem to think keeping two females together was an issue as long as they weren't cramped for space and my two females are getting along fine with no aggression issues. After seeing the difference I will never keep a single bird again. The level of interaction and attention they give each other would be impossible to match -- and I am home all day. They are so interesting together and this book was adult level helpful.

This was a great book to research all the various needs that a parakeet should have and to ensure it is healthy and happy. I got some great tips on everything from proper housing to various foods. I really enjoyed the book and it was very detailed with important and helpful data on owning a parakeet.

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