

# All About the

# Parrotlet

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# The Parrotlet

#### **About the Parrotlet**

The Parrotlet is one of the smallest breeds of Parrots known. What they lack in size, they certainly make up in personality. These little birds are quite intelligent and have tons of energy. Parrotlets can be feisty with their owners at first, yet with proper training, they can learn that you are in charge.

#### **Parrotlet Characteristics**

Parrotlets are usually bright green in color, but males often come in shades of blue and gray on their tail feathers and wings, and yellow on their faces. These birds only grow to about 5 inches, measured from head to tail. They are capable of learning to talk, and unlike larger breeds of parrots, these smaller birds do not make nearly as much noise. There are seven known species of Parrotlets, but only two are being sold as pets: the Pacifics and Green Rumps.

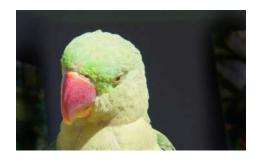
# Selecting Your Parrotlet

#### A Few Words About Pet Stores

There are numerous pet stores that can assist you in purchasing or locating a Parrotlet of your own. Many pet stores work directly with breeders and can obtain very nice birds for you. Unfortunately, there are some pet stores that do not operate to the best standards and sell birds that are sick or poorly fed. It is best to thoroughly investigate the cages where the birds are kept and look for signs of neglect.

#### A Few Words About Breeders

There are some wonderful bird breeders available to people wishing to own a Parrotlets. Be sure to do your research and understand the breed and what you should watch for. A great way to locate a reputable Parrotlet breeder is to start with a specific Parrotlet society or organization. There are a few available by searching on the Internet. There, you will find links to breeders and other helpful information to assist you in your buying decision. If you choose to find a breeder through other means, such as a local newspaper, make sure they are housing their birds in a clean and healthy environment and you can obtain a health guarantee for your bird.



- Toys for Your Parrotlet
- Treats for Your Parrotlet



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# How to Choose your Parrotlet

Parrotlets are usually bright in color, with brown feet. Males and females are easily distinguished by their colorings, with males having blues on the undersides of the wings and tail. Some of the smaller species can be more timid, yet are still just as friendly and will eventually warm up to their owners. Be sure to check your new bird for mites, scales on the feet, or other breathing noises, which could indicate a bird with respiratory issues. Parrotlets are quite playful, active and are going to require plenty of attention and affection. Be sure that you are able to make time for your new bird.

# Through The Years

#### The Parrotlet Chick

Parrotlets that are being sold as pets are usually pulled from the nest at around 10 days of age, at which time hand feeding can begin. This type of feeding birds is what ultimately builds trust and bonds the bird with humans. Chicks that are not hand-fed can be quite difficult to handle and will be much more independent.

#### The Parrotlet Adult

Adult Parrotlets have the capacity to enjoy attention from their owners, yet are just as easily entertained in their cages if they have plenty of toys. While they get along quite well with most people, the same is not always true when it comes to their interaction with other birds. Parrotlets can confront and even attack a bird twice their size. These small birds should also never be kept loose in the house unsupervised, since they can easily be lost or even hurt. Provide your bird with a well-balanced diet of fresh fruits, vegetables, greens, seed and pellets for optimum health.

Expectant mothers prepare for months for their new arrival. A room is prepared for the new baby, necessary items are stocked, and made easily accessible, with schedules even being adjusted accordingly. While we might not prepare for months for a new bird, it is important to be ready for your new addition before he arrives. You should make sure that your home is free of items that can become dangerous, or possible areas where the bird can easily escape outside. If you have other pets already, you should be sure that they are in a safe place, at least in the beginning until everyone adjusts.



You'll need these basics before your Parrotlet comes home. Click the items below to go to CheapPetStore.com to find the best prices for online pet supplies.

- Natural fiber disc for nest
- Nesting Hair
- Nesting material
- Avian weaning diet
- Nestling Food
- Weaning & conditioning food for parrots
- Embrace hand feed
- Exact hand feed for baby birds





### **Medical Considerations**

Parrotlets are pretty healthy birds. If you are feeding your bird with a pellet diet, he should no longer be given vitamins which can cause health issues. There are also reported cases of kidney disease in these birds, a condition that is usually linked with their diet regime. If you are unsure of what to feed your bird or have questions about his overall health, you should contact a reputable breeder or your veterinarian.

# **Necessary Items**

Your Parrotlet will need a large cage, with a minimum size of 18" x18"x18". This ensures him of plenty of room to climb and fly. Your Parrotlet cannot be left in his cage constantly and ignored. He must be played with and handled with care. A good variety of toys for your bird will also help him stay entertained while you are at work or busy with other tasks.

#### **Popular Products for Your Parrotlet**

- Cockatiel/Parrot Hi-Cal Grit
- Extreme Fruit Nut Parrot
- Wafer Treat
- Bird Greens
- Bird Claw Clipper
- Bird Bath Pump Spray
- Walnut Shell Avian Pet Litter
- Ultra Litter Scoop

- Plastic Seed Guard
- Bird Cage Cover
- Happy Hut
- Bird Dropping Remover
- <u>ZuPreemAvian</u> Maintenance
- Iron & Blood Supplement
- Quick Blood Stopper
- Feather Frenzy Bird Toy
- Forest Flowers Bird Toy
- Junglebells and Blocks



Can't miss gifts for the Parrotlet owner:

- Ultimate Parrot Guide
- Teach Parrots to Talk



Jumbo Fountain Feeder

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Medina Playtop Bird Cage



**Feather Glo** 



**Forest Perch** 



Double Axis Bird Toy



Bird Soynut Treat Bag

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