

## ***When Good Knowledge Goes BAD***

Getting a bird is a long, sometimes slow process. You have to evaluate your family and what type of personality would fit best, make decisions about how big or small a bird you would like, you need to research the different species, and finally choose an individual. With all the many sources of information, it is often hard for a novice to weed through what is good information and what is bad, or misleading.

At *The Crystal Parrot* we recommend doing your homework. Here are a couple guidelines to help you sort through all the information out there.

- Look for books and articles that were written recently. Many books or articles written even 10 years ago are out dated, and as we say "Not worth the paper they are printed on."
- Any book or article that recommends feeding a seed only diet, a pellet only diet, or grit of any kind is not discussing modern knowledge on diet.
- A book or article that recommends punishment by hitting or swatting a bird on the beak is misleading: negative reinforcement does not correct unwanted behaviors, instead it leads to aggression and often worse behaviors.
- Be mindful of any information on the internet. One does not have to have any knowledge to write an article on the web. Ask yourself if the author is trying to sell you something or if they are looking out for the welfare of the birds.

We do ask that before you take the information you find to heart, please run it by us. Very often information may seem to make sense to someone just starting on the path to bird ownership, but may not actually be good for you. We highly encourage you to review what you have learned with us so we can help you determine the quality of the information and how it may apply to you and your situation.

The owner and staff at *The Crystal Parrot* have over 60 years of bird experience combined. Every member of the staff is a bird owner. Two staff members are Licensed Veterinary Technicians with Avian and Exotics experience. We consult with globally recognized veterinarians and avian behaviorists that have revolutionized our views of parrot nutrition and behavior over the years. We don't claim we know it all, but we will do all we can to help you make the right decision while also making sure our feathered companions go to the best home possible. Our very first concern is the birds in our care and what is best for them, not putting money into our cash register. An owner with knowledge and confidence, who is backed with a support system of experienced avian specialists is exactly what we want for our birds.

The entire staff at *The Crystal Parrot* will be more than happy to help you research and find the companion bird that fits you and your family's lifestyle.  
Stop by our shop or call us anytime.

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