

# Before you choose a parrot as at pet, keep these things in mind...

1. Are you willing to learn as much as you can about having a parrot as a pet?
2. Are you willing to learn about the different types of parrots so that you can pick one that best fits your lifestyle?
3. Parrots live a long time - are you ready to make a commitment for 20 to 80+ years?
4. Parrots are intelligent and social creatures and need LOTS of interaction from their owners every day - are you ready to make a commitment like THAT for 20 to 80+ years?
5. Parrots are still considered WILD and not domesticated animals. They have all the instincts of their wild counterparts. Are you willing to take the time to work with your parrot to eliminate these behaviors or would you be more likely to give the parrot up?
6. Parrots are LOUD and messy. They demand attention. They are destructive by nature, especially when bored. Are you willing to accept some noise and mess? Would you work with your parrot to curb unwanted screaming behavior or would you become frustrated and lose patience with your bird?
7. Parrots can choose to strongly dislike someone (including their owners); they can become overly jealous of a favorite person, toy, cage or food and will show aggressive behaviors. Are you willing to deal with these or any unwanted behaviors by learning how to handle these situations?

If you even hesitated in answering any of these questions....Do not consider a parrot as a pet. Want to know what you would be getting into? Volunteer your time at an avian rescue and learn what it would be like to own one.