



## Acclimation Process

### Bonding

All newly re-homed parrots need time to get acquainted with their new environment and family. Some parrots have had a difficult past before transitioning into our sanctuary care or foster home.

These parrots may take a little bit longer to adjust to their new home when they are adopted. It is important for all new adopters to have their parrots recent and past bio-history records.

The Parrot Bio-form Questionnaire is a detailed log showing the history of their past home, recent foster home, a list of their diet, environment, activities, routine, likes, dislikes, and personality traits.

The following techniques have been refined and proven over more than ten years of studying parrot behavior. This method will help you help your parrot have a much easier time adjusting to their new home.

### Simple Three Step Acclimation Process

Parrot re-homing is all about trust. They must trust you and know they are safe in their new home.

#### **Step 1: Creating Trust and Bonding**

The first 72 hours after your parrot's arrival in its new home are crucial for creating trust and bonding with its primary care provider. This is a crucial step! Following these guidelines will ensure a smooth transition for you and your parrot.

- After your parrot's arrival to his or her new home, keep the bird in its *uncovered* cage for a *minimum of 48 hours*.
- During this 72 hour period it is crucial that **only the primary adopter** is feeding, watering, or giving treats to your parrot.
- The primary adopter should do most of the soft talking to your parrot during this bonding stage.



- No one else should participate in caring for your parrot during this trust and bonding stage. Allow the bird to discover who his primary care provider is and bond with that person.
- Avoid a difficult transition by not allowing anyone break this bonding procedure.

### **Step 2: Bonding the Right Way**

The primary care provider must **not** show affection towards any other animal or human in front of the new parrot. It is especially important to avoid getting angry or disciplining any human or animal during the first 72 hours.

- Parrots are like 3 year-old children. During their first 3 to 30 days they will try to test you to see how much they can get away with. Please be aware and cautious during this adjustment period. Remember, you are training them, not them training you.
- Avoid responding to your parrot when they make an annoying sound or loud cry. If you do, you have just named yourself that annoying sound or cry.
- Try your best not to overreact when your parrot makes a funny sound, or mimics something funny. He or she may misunderstand your attention as a reward. The parrot will make that sound or noise to get your attention.
- In some cases, the parrot will make a repetitive sound until they gain your attention. If this happens, you might try ignoring them when you arrive home. It's best to begin giving them attention and affection after they have been quiet for a while.

### **Step 3: Maintaining a Healthy Relationship**

When you give your parrot special attention and affection, be in the habit of limiting your attention to regular increments of time like 10 or 15 minutes. If your schedule changes your parrot won't understand and the change. You may experience some behavioral problems if you change his or her amount of special attention time.

If you break this acclimation process, you must start over at step one. If you experience any adjustment problems, please contact your Parrot for Patriots representative or your assigned parrot behaviorists.