



Showertime

All

You Will Need:

Water

Shallow bowl

Hand sprayer

Possibly a source
of “white noise”

Time Required: 10 Minutes



In the wild most parrots enjoy a daily bathe, either in the rain, cavorting in wet leaves or in a shallow pool.

In captivity most parrots enjoy a shower as well. A hand sprayer is the easiest way but please do not use it like a water cannon! Adjust the nozzle to a fine spray and gently introduce the water mist from a distance to gauge your pet's reaction. If it approaches great, continue – if it moves away do not pursue it with the water spray. Try again another time. We often find that a short “pre spray” works best followed by a more lengthy spray period. A shallow bowl of water is also a great idea as some birds prefer to bathe in their own time. A bird needs to be really comfortable and secure with both you and the environment it is in before it will bathe. Do not forget a wet bird is a vulnerable bird in the wild so they need to know that they will be safe.

The sound of rain often triggers the bathing response in parrots so try offering your bird a spray when it is raining outside. Other sources of “white noise” often elicit the same response – a vacuum cleaner operating often induces a parrot to bathe for example.

Also some parrots prefer to bathe in wet leaves so try giving a wet leafy branch and see their reaction.

Be sensible about when you spray your pet bird. For example do not spray it late at night so that it roosts wet overnight, do not spray in extremely cold temperatures and your bird may be adversely affected and as always watch out for draughty locations as draughts can also affect your bird adversely.