

# Budgie Behaviour

## Taming Your Budgie

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The purpose of this article is to give you general taming tips to members of the BBC forum based on their experience and also from my own personal experience taming my budgie and Merlin (who came from a private home).

### **Before you decide you want to tame your budgie consider a couple different factors.**

Hand raised baby budgies are easier to tame  
Pet store budgies will need more patience and time, plus assessing their age group  
Older budgies will need more patience and time  
Abused or rescued budgies that have been untamed for a long time are not fully tame but with patience you can build a trusting relationship

Think about this and decide what you want out of taming your budgie? There are different degrees of tame budgies.

Do you want a budgie that is “glued” to you and that always giving kisses and giving him 100% attention.

Do you want a budgie that talks?

Or are you looking for companions that will step-up when you come to the cage doors

Do you want a budgie that you can let out who can enter your room on you or with you all the time?

When you are working on taming a budgie there is **no** one goal that should be met. All budgies are different. For example, a budgie that is already tame and is the perfect companion or you may have a budgie that hasn't had any human interaction except for people in a pet store. A baby budgie in a pet store might soon become "wild" if no interaction happens.

When you first bring your budgie home let your new budgie go through the taming process. This is what I personally did when I got my first budgie. Before he arrived I made sure his cage was secure and I put him in the cage I kept him in a quiet room with no other birds for a few days. I also kept his cage covered on all three sides to make him feel the safest. After 2 days I slowly started to bring the cage completely uncovered. This took about a week. Some budgies form a relationship with humans, for others it could take more time until he becomes more comfortable with his surroundings. It's a little everyday. We suggest that you keep your budgie in his cage until he is comfortable in his own cage first. It is best to wait until he has learnt how to step-up. It's best to have hands out of the cage unless you are working on taming him and water because your big hand is very scary for the budgie and predator they don't know whether to trust you or not.

**One common mistake** people make is that they feed the budgie away and the bird lets you stroke him that he likes it, then the budgie backs up, freezes or starts to pant, your budgie is not tame.

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because they don't move this is acceptance of you to your bird begins to trust you will he let you scratch his usually move it around just as preening birds that pre perfect spot. Stroking their back and stomach areas a touched and if you can stroke their belly or back on a they are most likely just frozen scared.

**How long will it take to tame my budgie?** Unders weeks, months and even years; it really depends on t adopt an older scared bird you may find, sadly, that y bird. So before you purchase or adopt a rescued budg decision. This should not deter you way from adopting owning a pet it is your responsibility to give your pet a news is that even very wildest budgie, with patience a if you are consistent on a daily basis; though the degr

**Should I clip or not clip to tame my budgie?** This read [To clip or not to clip?](#) about the pros and cons. I and reading up on wing clipping that taming your bud than a budgie with unclipped wings. Both my birds we then I let them grow out. The difference in the attitude clipped is like night and day at times. Once your bird i grow out although many people keep their birds clipp but for taming purposes you will find it is easier to tan you but for the bird as well. Chasing a flighted bird ar stressful for the bird and you and, in all reality, is not into a window or a wall and may get injured.

[First Steps of Training:](#)

**Building Trust:** This is the first step when you are w to know that you will not hurt it in any way. The best v budgie daily. Many articles say 15 minutes a day is all untrue. I always advise members to spend as much ti your budgie. The more you work with your budgie, on trust with your new friend. This time can be spent all i into shorter periods throughout the day. When your b feeling.

There are many different ways you can form a trustin to them all the time when they are in and out of their smaller cage and I could move it I would take him from always by us. Do not push training if you find they are immediately. They are simply not ready.

**Food as a Training Tool:** Food is a huge motivator, such as millet sprays it speeds up the bond. If your bu that is OK, they don't know if you are giving them poi with them, and are around them, the more they will r take a nibble. It takes time! Don't expect them to aut that snatch food, they must trust you first. Always fee Many times you will see pictures of people feeding bu actually harmful for the bird. Human saliva has bacter

**Learning to Step Up:** The step-up command is the r teach your budgie. Teaching your bird to step-up will l the room when it is time to go back in their cage, or if danger, or for doing a visual examination of your bird

Remember your hand is huge compared to a budgie s at first. The majority of budgies love millet this is a wo use millet as a training treat in the beginning. You ma your hand initially. If your budgie is really scared of yo between the cage bars. Your budgie will feel safer and millet. Once your budgie feels comfortable eating the bars you can then open up the door and slowly offer it

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lower than the perch and hold a small piece of millet very close to your hand, but, with patience, you will find that he will eat from your hand. He will be eating from your hand and he is trusting of your hand. He will be eating from your belly (right above his feet) and say the command "step up" on your hand. Start off at first that is OK, try again and keep your training sessions short, 5-10 minutes 2-3 times a day. This is meant to be a positive reinforcement for your budgie stressed out. When he feels comfortable on your hand, you can move your hand around very slowly at first, then faster. These are all steps. Some budgies do get this right away, some take a while. OK. Remember be patient. Once your budgie is comfortable on your hand around with him perched on it you can then proceed to training him to step up on your cage time.

I recommend that you **have your budgie step up on your hand** on command. Some budgies as they become more tame will step up on your hand when you want them to they don't because they get nervous. I will have them step-up 3 times a day either in or out of the cage.

**Outside of the cage:** We recommend that you use a small room for training (make sure the toilet seat is down and there is no stairs). Start by introducing your budgie to out of the cage time. If your budgie will fly around and find the highest spot to perch on, this is a good sign. The reason why it is recommended to use a small room, is because in a large room such as your living room and your budgie is not used to being there. He will head for the window and even hit a wall. This is very dangerous for your budgie's neck and could be killed. If your budgie is clipped (highly recommended) it is much easier to introduce out of the cage time without any problems. and keep removing them from high places.

Once you have decided on a room, if you have a small room with his cage and then open the door, ask him to step up on your hand. I recommend that you teach your budgie to step up on your hand. This will give you more control when you want to get him back into his cage and again work on stepping up, talk to him softly and reassure him. If he is scared when outside of the cage. He may not step-up on your hand. Use your budgie's favorite treat with you during this training session. When he realizes he is OK have him step-up and then reward him with a treat. Remember keep all training sessions 10-15 minutes 2-3 times a day. If your budgie is panting, trying to bite out of fear or his head is tucked back during the session. You want to leave every training session on a positive note. Put him back in his cage, if possible keep him on your finger. When he hop off on his favorite perch. When I put Merlin back on his swing "his favorite spot" it makes him feel secure.

Once you have taught your budgie to remain on your hand, the next step will want to start to train him to stay there when you start walking. This is the biggest challenges because when I started to walk with my budgie, the motion of the body that puts them into flight. So first start by walking slowly and move your hand around up and down, around in circles, and around them. Once you find that they are gripping on to your hand, you want to stay on your finger you can slow start walking. Each budgie will train different some may get this command quickly, some walking around others may be more flighty and you will have to be patient.

**A good technique** I used was when Pretty would fly to my hand and then hold my finger about 4 inches from the cage. I learned that if he flew to my finger he would be rewarded with a treat when he was eating. Messy it was, but that is why I have used this technique. Flying from an object to your finger is excellent training. If your budgie fly to you on command. Especially if you decide to keep your budgie on your hand down. Just like the step-up command the fly to you on command. If your budgie does it all the time. Budgies do get "stinky" when they are not listening so working with this everyday is an excellent training technique. A separate command word should be used, such as "come to me".

**Training my budgie to sit on my shoulder:** Many budgies will sit on your shoulder.



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[For ideas on how our members tamed their bud](#)  
[Forum member's dicuss how to tame their budg](#)

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