

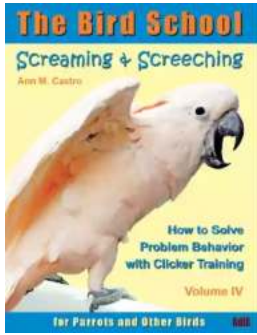
# The Bird School for Parrots: How Clicker Training Can Solve Problem Behavior



Parrots are fascinating creatures with unique personalities and intelligence. However, they can sometimes display problem behaviors that can be quite challenging for their owners. From excessive screaming to feather plucking, these behaviors can cause distress for both the bird and its human companions.

Fortunately, there is a highly effective and positive training method that can help solve these problem behaviors - clicker training.

**Screaming & Screeching: How to Solve Problem Behavior with Clicker Training. The Bird School for Parrots and Other Birds** by Ann Castro(Kindle Edition)



★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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## Understanding Clicker Training

Clicker training is a form of positive reinforcement training that encourages desired behaviors in animals. It involves the use of a clicker, which is a small device that emits a distinct clicking sound when pressed. This sound serves as a marker that tells the bird it has performed the correct behavior, followed by a reward such as a treat or verbal praise.

What makes clicker training so effective is its ability to create clear communication between the bird and the trainer. The clicker acts as a bridge, telling the parrot exactly which behavior is being rewarded, even if there is a slight delay between the behavior and the reward itself.

## The Benefits of Clicker Training

Clicker training is not only an effective method for solving problem behavior, but it also offers several other benefits:

### 1. Positive Reinforcement:

Clicker training relies on positive reinforcement, which means focusing on rewarding desired behaviors rather than punishing unwanted ones. This approach not only helps the bird understand what is expected of it but also

strengthens the bond between the parrot and its owner. By associating the clicker with treats and praise, the parrot is motivated to repeat the desired behaviors.

## **2. Mental Stimulation:**

Parrots are highly intelligent creatures, and they require mental stimulation to thrive. Clicker training provides this stimulation by engaging their curiosity and problem-solving skills. It challenges them to figure out the behaviors that will earn them rewards, keeping their minds active and stimulated.

## **3. Reduces Stress:**

Problem behaviors in parrots often stem from stress or frustration. Clicker training helps alleviate these negative emotions by providing a positive outlet for the bird's energy. As the parrot learns what behaviors are rewarded, it becomes more confident and less prone to exhibiting problem behaviors.

## **Using Clicker Training for Solving Problem Behaviors**

Now that we understand the power of clicker training, let's explore how it can specifically address problem behaviors in parrots:

### **1. Excessive Screaming:**

If your parrot tends to scream excessively, clicker training can teach it an alternative behavior that will earn rewards. For example, you can train the parrot to communicate its needs or desires through a specific sound or gesture. When it performs this desired behavior instead of screaming, you can click the clicker and reward it, reinforcing the new communication method.

### **2. Feather Plucking:**

Feather plucking is often a sign of stress or boredom in parrots. Clicker training can redirect their attention and provide alternative activities to engage in. For

example, you can teach your parrot tricks or interactive games that keep it mentally active and physically stimulated. By rewarding these behaviors, you can help reduce the urge to feather pluck.

### **3. Aggression:**

Aggression in parrots can be a safety concern and a challenge to manage. Clicker training can be used to train the bird to redirect its aggression towards more appropriate behaviors. You can click and reward the parrot for stepping up on a perch instead of biting, or for interacting positively with toys instead of attacking them.

### **4. Fearful Behaviors:**

Some parrots may display fear or anxiety-related behaviors, such as biting or excessive hiding. Clicker training can help build their confidence by gradually exposing them to the source of fear in a controlled and positive manner. The parrot can be rewarded for calm behavior and gradually desensitized to the feared stimulus.

## **Getting Started with Clicker Training**

If you're ready to start clicker training with your parrot, here are some essential steps to follow:

### **1. Introduce the Clicker:**

Begin by associating the sound of the clicker with treats and rewards. Click the clicker, followed by immediately offering a treat. Repeat this process several times until the parrot understands the connection between the click and the reward.

### **2. Start with Simple Behaviors:**

Choose a simple behavior that you would like to train your parrot. It could be stepping up onto a perch or touching a target object. Break down the behavior into small steps and click and reward each successful attempt, gradually shaping the behavior.

### **3. Be Consistent and Patient:**

Consistency is key in clicker training. Make sure to click and reward each desired behavior consistently, so the parrot understands what it is being rewarded for. Patience is also essential, as learning new behaviors takes time. Remember to always keep the training sessions short and enjoyable for both you and your parrot.

## **The Bird School for Parrots: Changing Lives with Clicker Training**

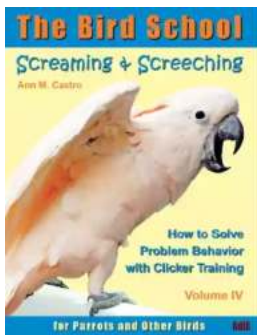
Clicker training has revolutionized the way parrot owners solve problem behaviors and develop better relationships with their feathered companions. It offers a humane and effective method that focuses on positive reinforcement and clear communication.

If you're struggling with problem behaviors in your parrot, consider joining The Bird School for Parrots. Our team of expert trainers can guide you through the world of clicker training, providing personalized advice and support tailored to your parrot's specific needs. Together, we can create a happier and more harmonious life for both you and your parrot.

With clicker training, problem behaviors in parrots can become a thing of the past. By utilizing positive reinforcement, mental stimulation, and clear communication, parrot owners can transform their feathered friends into well-behaved and content companions.

So, what are you waiting for? Grab your clicker, treats, and embark on an exciting journey of training and bonding with your parrot - it's an adventure you won't regret!

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Would you and your family like to spend quality time with your birds without fear of bursting your eardrums?

Would you like to entertain visitors without your bird screaming non-stop making a proper conversation impossible?

Would you like to be able to have a normal telephone conversation without being disturbed by constant screaming?

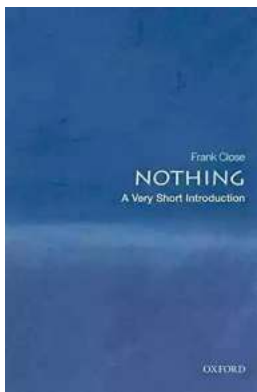
Would you like to stop complaints by your neighbors?

**THEN THIS BOOK IS PERFECT FOR YOU!**

If you have screaming birds and are at your wits end, this book can help you. It is also useful for implementing preemptive measures to avoid your bird becoming

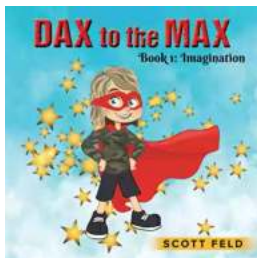
screamers later on in life.

Parrot behavior consultant Ann Castro shows you how to carry out behavior therapy with your screaming birds at home. Step-by-step she explains all the measures that a behavior consultant would work through together with you. The methods used in this book require the knowledge of Clicker Training for Parrots and Other Birds Volumes I and II: “Clicker Training” and “More Clicker Training”. Please read those two books first, if you are not already an experienced clicker trainer.



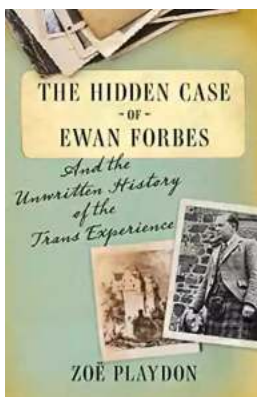
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