

PARROT NEST BOX DESIGN AND USAGE



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What materials to use?

- Possible materials: Metal, Dimensional Wood, Natural Wood, Barrels, PVC and Logs.
- Depends on the species.
- Depends on the individual pair.



John Kiseda El Paso Zoo



www.getbirdstuff.com



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Offering multiple options can be advantageous to allowing a pair to choose their nest box.

Nest box material selection can even be based on where the location of the box is. (Off exhibit, on exhibit)

If your parrots are known to be very destructive a PVC box or wood nest box may not be suitable or wood.

Metal Nest boxes

PROS

- ▣ Virtually indestructible.
- ▣ Easy to clean
- ▣ Durable and great longevity.



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CONS

- ▣ Can get really hot if used outdoors in the sun.
- ▣ Not natural looking if used on exhibit.
- ▣ Eliminates natural behavior to chew or excavate the nest box.

Metal is often difficult to work with> constructing

Generally metal boxes can be used breeding season after breeding season.

Wood Nest boxes

PROS

- ▣ Allows birds to chew and excavate.
- ▣ Easy to build and materials readily available.
- ▣ Used on exhibit and be visually appealing.
- ▣ Using wood can give allow for a variety of shapes of boxes.

CONS

- ▣ Must replace often.
- ▣ Difficult to clean and disinfect.



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Wood boxes allow for multiple options for nest box shapes.

A lot of the time wood boxes have to be repaired or replaced after each breeding season.

Can be painted or camouflaged to blend in an exhibit.

PVC Nest boxes

PROS

- ▣ Easy to build and install.
- ▣ Easy to clean and disinfect.
- ▣ Durable and long lasting.

CONS

- ▣ Parrots can't chew and excavate.
- ▣ PVC retains moisture which can cause issues.
- ▣ PVC can be expensive especially the larger dimensions.

PVC is easy to work with.

PVC is not for parrots that are really big chewers!!!

PVC has worked well for breeding Galah's at Sedgwick County Zoo

Galah Breeding

PVC Nest Box used for Breeding Galah's



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Logs and Barrels

PROS

- ▣ Naturalistic.
- ▣ Allows for natural chewing and excavating.
- ▣ Durable and long lasting.

CONS

- ▣ Large and heavy, can be difficult to install.



Gen Anderson St. Augustine Alligator Farm

If all else fails, experiment with different kinds
of nest boxes!!!



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