

## Bird Term of the Day: Domesticated

**Definitions of words used by pet bird enthusiasts with the pet bird slant.**

Courtesy of Yvonne Siu, Hong Kong

Moluccan cockatoo Chow Chow may appear on a t-shirt, but he is still in touch with his wild roots and is not considered domesticated.

Domesticated: (adj) When an animal has been trained or adapted to live with and be of use to humans. Parrots, with the exception of perhaps the budgie and the cockatiel, are not domesticated but considered wild. They have not yet been living with humans for many generations nor have been bred for features or temperament like dogs and cats. For example, all dogs are one genus and species (*Canis familiaris*), but have been bred by humans for a variety of characteristics suited to humans so they now come in all shapes and sizes (breeds). Parrots are still much like they are in the wild, only those living in our homes have been tamed -- but not domesticated.

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