

Index

Numerics

1-800-Save-A-Pet (Web site), 29, 211

• A •

- AAV (Association of Avian Veterinarians), 270, 271
- Adamson, Eve (*Labrador Retrievers For Dummies*), 2
- adult cats, adopting, 139–140
- adult dogs, adopting, 53–54
- Advantage, 97
- African grey parrots, 253
- alcohol, 278
- altpet.net (Web site), 40
- Amazon parrots, 253, 278
- American Dog Owner's Association, Inc. (Web site), 346
- American Ferret Association (Web site), 40, 211
- American Kennel Club (Web site), 39, 67, 116
- American Pet Product Manufacturer's Association, 18, 137
- American shorthair (cat breed), 149–150
- American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), 29, 256, 346
- amphibians. *See also specific species*
- choosing, 304
 - feeding, 326
 - handling, 336
 - heat, light, bedding, and water, 312
- anapsid.org (Web site), 40, 317
- anesthesia, 56, 108
- Animal Behavior Society (Web site), 134, 195
- animal control agencies, 24
- Animal Poison Control Center, ASPCA, 75, 99, 152, 171
- animal shelters
- adoption process, 30–34
 - basics, 21
 - birds, 256
 - cat temperament testing/information, 143, 145–146
 - checking out the facility, 30–31
 - cons, 27
 - description, 23–24
 - finding, 28–29
 - funding of, 24, 25
 - no-kill, 21, 26
 - pet examination at, 31–32
 - pros, 26–27
 - recommendations, 29
 - rescue groups, cooperation with, 24
 - spaying/neutering pets, 94
 - success of, 25
 - supporting local, 345–346
 - temperament testing, 58–59
 - types, 24–26
 - volunteering, 30, 345
- anoles, 325, 335
- antifreeze, 75
- anxiety, 130–131, 133
- arachnids. *See also tarantulas*
- adoption considerations, 20–21, 305–306
 - feeding, 327
 - housing, 311
 - life span, 11
- ARAV (Association of Reptilian and Amphibian Veterinarians), 319
- ASPCA (American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals), 29, 256, 346
- ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center, 75, 99, 152, 171
- aspergillosis, 273
- Association of Avian Veterinarians (AAV), 270, 271
- Association of Pet Dog Trainers (Web site), 115

Association of Reptilian and Amphibian Veterinarians (ARAV), 319
 attack behaviors in cats, 189–191
 Avian Rescue (Web site), 40, 257
 Avian Web (Web site), 40

• B •

bacterial infections, 272–273, 321
 bark collar, 126
 barking, 126
 Bartlett, Patricia (*Reptiles & Amphibians For Dummies*), 2, 299, 304
 bathing
 birds, 265, 280
 cats, 181–182
 dogs, 107
 small animals, 229–230
 beak trimming, 280
 bearded dragons, 325
 bedding
 for birds, 265
 for reptiles, 312
 for small animals, 218
 begging, by dogs, 129–130
 behaviorist
 avian, 288
 dog, 134
 feline, 191, 194–195
 Bird Adoption.org (Web site), 257
 bird behavior
 by adolescents, 293
 aggression, 286–287
 behavior consultant, 288
 biting, 286–287
 bonding, 288–289
 chewing, 287
 fear and anxiety, 283–284
 feather picking, 273, 287–288
 mating season, 293–294
 noise, 285–286
 socialization, 288, 290
 solving problems, 282–288
 training, 289–293
 understanding, 281–282
 bird diet
 balanced diet, 275–276
 best foods, 276–277
 converting to proper, 279–280

 feeding frequency, 279
 fresh food, 276
 pelleted, 276
 seed, 276
 species-specific, 278
 worst foods, 277–278
 bird health
 bacterial infections, 272–273
 bumblefoot, 273
 diet, 275–280
 egg binding, 274
 feather picking, 273–274
 fungal infections, 273, 279
 gout, 273
 injuries, 272
 obesity, 273
 parasites, 272
 respiratory distress from environmental causes, 274
 veterinarian, choosing, 270–271
 veterinary visit, first, 271–272
 viral infections, 273
 Bird Placement Program (Web site), 40, 257
 bird species
 African grey, 253
 Amazon parrots, 253, 278
 blue-and-gold macaws, 252, 278
 blue-throated macaws, 278
 budgies, 278
 choosing, 250–251
 cockatiels, 255–256, 278
 cockatoos, 252, 278
 conures, 254
 doves, 255, 278
 eclectus parrots, 255
 fighting, 250
 green-winged macaws, 253, 278
 health and temperament, 251
 hyacinth macaws, 253, 278
 lories, 254, 278
 lorikeets, 278
 lovebirds, 254
 macaws, 252–253, 278
 military macaws, 253, 278
 parakeets, 255–256
 pigeons, 255, 278
 Quaker parakeets, 254
 species-specific diets, 278

- bird supplies
 - bedding, 265
 - cage, 262–263, 264
 - cage cover, 264
 - cement perch, 265
 - climbing devices, 264
 - cuttlebone, 265
 - food, 263
 - nail trimmers, 265
 - perch cleaner, 264
 - perches, 263
 - toys, 264
 - travel carrier, 264
 - birdbath, 265, 280
 - bird-proofing your home, 259–261
 - birdrescue.com (Web site), 257
 - birds
 - adoption considerations, general, 20
 - bathing, 265
 - bird-proofing your home, 259–261
 - biting, 248, 252–256, 266, 286–287
 - breeding prevention, 274–275
 - cat introduction to, 162
 - difficulties of, 247–249
 - dog introduction to, 88
 - feeding, 275–280
 - finding for adoption, 256–257
 - first-year costs, 13–14
 - free-flying, 261–262
 - grooming, 265, 280
 - introducing to children, 267–268
 - introducing to family, 267
 - introducing to new home, 266–267
 - introducing to other pets, 268
 - life span, 11
 - location, 293
 - needs of adopted bird, 249–250
 - nesting by, 275, 293–294
 - rescue groups, 40
 - signs of good health, 251
 - supplies, 262–265
 - transporting, 264, 266, 272
 - understanding adopted bird, 248–249
 - vocalizations, 247–248, 252–255, 285–286
 - wing clipping, 261–262
 - bite inhibition, 129
 - biting
 - by birds, 248, 252–256, 266, 286–287
 - by cats, 189–191
 - dealing with herp bites, 338
 - by dogs, 129
 - by small animals, 232–233
 - by spiders, 305, 306
 - by turtles, 335
 - bleeding, uncontrolled, 171
 - blue-and-gold macaws, 252, 278
 - blue-throated macaws, 278
 - boas, 300
 - body evaluation test, 103–104, 177
 - bonding, by birds, 288–289
 - Bordatella*, 115
 - bowls, food and water, 77, 154, 218
 - breathing problems, in exotics, 321
 - breeders, 39
 - brushes, 77
 - brushing
 - cats, 179
 - dogs, 106
 - budgies, 278
 - bugs, 305–306, 311, 327
 - bumblefoot, 207, 273
- C •
- caffeine, 175, 278
 - cage
 - bird, 249–250, 261, 262–263, 264
 - exotics, 309–311, 315
 - small animal, 216–218
 - travel, 264, 266, 315
 - cage cover, 264
 - calcium deficiency, 320
 - calicivirus, 168
 - Canine Good Citizen test, 115, 116
 - carrier, 153–154, 264, 272
 - cat behavior
 - attack, 189–191
 - climbing, 188–189
 - escaping/wandering, 192
 - evolution of, 141
 - hunting, 185–186
 - hyperactivity, 194
 - interactions with other pets, 193–194
 - redirecting, 188
 - scratching and clawing, 186–188
 - shyness and hiding, 191–192
 - talking, 193

cat breeds

- American shorthair, 149–150
- Himalayan, 148
- Maine coon, 150
- mixed-breed cats, 146–147
- Persians, 148–149
- Siamese, 149

cat food

- avoiding harmful foods, 174–175
- choosing, 154, 173–174
- dry, 174
- free feeding, 175–176
- meal feeding, 176
- organic, 174
- prescription, 173
- price as indicator of quality, 174
- raw diets, 174
- switching, 175

cat grooming

- bathing, 181–182
- brushing, 179
- combing, 179
- drying, 182
- as health-care checkup, 178–179
- mats, 179
- nail clipping, 179–181
- shaving, 179

cat supplies

- bed, 155–156, 157
- bling-bling, 158
- bowls, food and water, 154
- carrier, 153–154
- clothing, 158
- grooming, 156–157
- high-tech, 158
- litter boxes and fillers, 154–155
- scratching post, 156
- toys, 157
- trees, 156, 158, 189

catnip, 188

cat-proofing your home, 151–153

cats

- acclimating to your home, 158–159
- adjustment problems, 163
- adoption considerations, general, 19
- adult cat adoption, 139–140
- annual exam, 172
- attack behaviors, 189–191
- behaviorist, animal, 194–195

birds and, 268

- body evaluation test, 177
- breeds, 146–150
- catnip effect on, 188
- cat-proofing your home, 151–153
- climbing, 188–189
- coat, 142
- curiosity, 143
- deworming, 168
- emergencies, 171–172
- escaping/wandering, 192
- eyes, 142
- feeding, 154, 172–178
- feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV), 171
- feline leukemia (FeLV), 170–171
- feral, 138, 140–141
- first-year costs, 13–14
- giving run-of-the-house, 163
- grooming, 178–182
- healthcare, 165–172
- hunting, 185–186
- hyperactive, 194
- interactions with other pets, 193–194
- introducing to family, 159–160
- introducing to other cats and dogs, 87–88, 160–162
- introducing to small animals, birds, and fish, 162
- kitten adoption, 138–139
- life span, 11
- litter box location, 158–159
- litter-box training, 183–185
- long-haired, 147
- mixed-breed, 146–147
- parasites, 142, 169
- personality, 143–145
- pest control, 169
- rescue groups, 39
- scratching and clawing, 186–188
- sex, choosing, 140
- short-haired, 146–147
- shyness and hiding, 191–192
- signs of health, 141–143
- sleeping arrangements, 155–156
- spaying and neutering, 167–168
- stray, 138, 140–141
- supplies, 153–158
- talking, 193
- temperament testing, 143–146

- toys, 190
 - training, 195–196
 - transporting, 153–154
 - urinary blockage, 172
 - vaccination, 168–169
 - veterinarian, choosing, 166
 - weight, 176–178
 - Cats For Dummies* (Spadafori and Pion), 2
 - cavies. *See* guinea pigs
 - cavyrescue.com (Web site), 40, 211
 - cement perch, 265, 280
 - centipedes, giant, 305, 306, 312–313, 327
 - chew toys, 78, 249, 264
 - chewing
 - by birds, 287–288
 - destructive, 127–128
 - by small animals, 234
 - children
 - age, 202
 - birds and, 267–268
 - dog introduction to, 84
 - exotics and, 315, 323
 - introducing cat to, 159–160
 - maturity level, 202
 - responsibility, 202
 - small animals and, 201–202, 220
 - Chinchilla Rescue (Web site), 211
 - chinchillas
 - anesthesia sensitivity, 226
 - basic facts, 209
 - breeding prevention, 226
 - dust bath, 225, 230
 - enclosures, 217
 - feeding, 229
 - handling, 240
 - health problems, 225
 - chlamydiosis, 273
 - chocolate, 75, 175, 278
 - choking hazards, 74
 - clawing behavior in cats, 186–188
 - clicker training, 118, 196, 289
 - climbing behavior in cats, 188–189
 - clothing, for cats, 158
 - coat conditioner, 79
 - cockatiels, 255–256, 278
 - cockatoos, 252, 278
 - cockroaches, 305, 306, 312–313, 327
 - collar, 77, 156
 - Colorado Herpetological Society (Web site), 317
 - colubrids, 301
 - combing
 - cats, 179
 - dogs, 106–107
 - Come cue, 119, 241
 - companion dogs, 67–68
 - complaints, from neighbors, 12
 - Congo African grey parrots, 253
 - constrictors, 300
 - contract, rescue, 47–48
 - conures, 254
 - corn snakes, 301
 - cost
 - affording a pet, 13–14
 - first-year, 13–14
 - rescue group adoption fee, 48
 - crabs. *See* hermit crabs
 - crate, 77, 82–83
 - crate training, 112–113
 - crepuscular behavior, 235
 - curiosity, of cats, 143
 - cuttlebone, 265
 - Cyber-Pet (Web site), 346
 - cysts, 57
- D •
- day-care centers, doggy, 113
 - declawing, 187
 - Delta Society (Web site), 116
 - den, dog, 81–83, 88–89
 - dental care, dog, 108
 - dewlaps, 334
 - deworming, 95
 - digging
 - by dogs, 130–131
 - by small animals, 234
 - dog behavior
 - aggression, 131
 - bad habits, breaking, 123–124
 - barking, 126
 - begging, 129–130
 - chewing, 127–128
 - digging, 130
 - jumping up, 127
 - in mistreated dogs, 133–134
 - nipping and biting, 129

- dog behavior (*continued*)
 - praising good behavior, 124
 - professional help, 134
 - redirecting, 124
 - separation anxiety, 130–131
 - supervision, 124
 - wandering, 125–126
- dog breeds
 - guardian, 68–69
 - herding, 61, 72
 - hounds, 61, 70–71
 - northern, 61, 70
 - sporting, 60, 69
 - temperament, 59–61
 - terriers, 61, 71
 - toy, 61
 - working, 60
- dog food/feeding
 - bad nutritional habits, 101
 - BARF diet, 104
 - choosing right food, 100–101
 - homemade, 104
 - transition, 101
 - when to feed, 102
- Dog Health and Nutrition For Dummies* (Wiley), 100
- dog trainers, 29
- dog training
 - basic training cues, 118–123
 - buckle collars, 116
 - Canine Good Citizen certification, 115, 116
 - classes, 114–116
 - clicker training, 116–117, 118
 - Come cue, 119
 - crate, 112–113
 - Down cue, 121–122
 - Heel cue, 122–123
 - houstraining, 110–114
 - reward, 118–119
 - Sit cue, 120
 - socialization strategies, 116–117
 - Stay cue, 121
 - trainers, locating, 115
- dogs
 - adjustment problems, 89–90
 - adoption considerations, general, 18–19
 - adult dogs, 53–54
 - aggression, 131–132
 - bad habits, breaking, 123–124
 - behavior problems, managing, 125–130
 - birds and, 268
 - body evaluation test, 103–104
 - den, 81–83, 88–89
 - deworming, 95
 - downtime, 88–89
 - ears, 56
 - equipment/accessories, 76–79
 - eyes, 55–56
 - feeding, 99–102
 - first-year costs, 13–14
 - grooming, 79, 105–108
 - healthcare, 92–99
 - healthy signs of, 55–58
 - houstraining, 77, 80–81, 110–114
 - hybrid vigor, 65
 - introducing to adults, 83–84
 - introducing to cats, 87–88, 160–161
 - introducing to children, 84
 - introducing to other dogs, 85–87
 - introducing to small animals, 88
 - life span, 10–11
 - mistreated dog, managing, 133–134
 - mixed breeds, 64–66
 - nose, 56
 - parasites, 56–58, 93, 95–97
 - personality types, 63–64
 - potty spot, 80–81
 - puppies, adopting, 51–52
 - puppy-proofing your home, 73–76
 - purebred, 25
 - purebred dog breeds, 66–72
 - rescue groups, 39
 - separation anxiety, 130–131
 - sex, choosing, 54
 - skin and coat, 56–57
 - sleeping arrangements, 89
 - socialization, 85
 - spaying/neutering, 94
 - symptoms of illness, 98–99
 - teeth, 56, 108
 - temperament, 58–64
 - toys, 78, 79
 - training, 114–123
 - traveling with, 117
 - vaccinations, 94–95, 115–116

weight, 102–105
welcoming home, 80–89

dogs, purebred
adopting, 66–72
at animal shelters, 25
companion dogs, 67–68
guardian breeds, 68–69
health of, 65
herding, 72
information of, 67
northern, 70
rescue groups, 66
scenthounds, 71
sighthounds, 70
sporting, 69
terrier, 71

doves, 255, 278

Down training cue, 121–122

dust baths, for chinchillas, 225

● E ●

ear infections, 56
ear mites, 56
eclectus parrots, 255
ectropion, 56
egg binding, 274
electrocution hazards, 74
enclosure. *See also* cage
exotic, 309–311
small animal, 215–218
entropion, 56
euthanasia, 21, 141
exercise equipment, for small animals, 218
exercise pen, 82
exotic pet health
abuse, signs of, 321
bacterial and fungal infections, 321
constipation and diarrhea, 321
environment, importance of, 318
feeding, 321–323, 324–327
malnutrition, 320
mites, 321
mouth rot, 321
signs of poor health, 321–323
veterinary care, 317, 318–320
exotic pet supplies
enclosures, 309–311
light, heat, bedding, and water, 311–313
outdoor housing, 314
supply list, 313
exotic pets. *See also specific species*
adoption considerations, general, 20–21
bites, dealing with, 338
bugs, 305–306
children and, 323
constrictors, 300
enclosures, 217, 311
escaped, locating, 309
feeding, 324–327
finding, 306
first-year costs, 13–14
frogs, 304
green iguanas, 301–302
handling, 332–337
hermit crabs, 305
herp-proofing your home, 307–308
hygiene and grooming, 327–328
introducing to other pets, 316
introducing to your home, 315–316
life span, 11
lizards, 303–304
newts, 304
picking a pet, 299–306
questions to ask yourself before
adoption, 298–299
rescue groups, 40
salamanders, 304
snakes, 300–301
supplies, 309–314
tamed, how to recognize, 330–331
taming, 330, 331
training, 329–331
transporting, 314–315
turtles, 302–303
eyelids, dog, 56
eyes, examining, 55–56, 142

● F ●

fatty acids, 173, 227
favours you can do for your adopted pet,
343–344
fear, in cats, 191–192
feather picking, 273, 287–288
feathers, trimming, 262, 280
Fédération Cynologique Internationale
(Web site), 67

- feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV), 141, 171
 - feline leukemia virus (FeLV), 141, 168, 170–171
 - Feline Rescue Network (Web site), 39
 - feline viral rhinotracheitis, 168
 - FeLV (feline leukemia virus), 141, 168, 170–171
 - fences, for dogs, 125–126
 - feral (wild) cats, 137, 140–141
 - Ferret Central (Web site), 40
 - ferrets
 - attention requirements, 203
 - biting behavior, 232–233
 - boredom, 235
 - cost, 204
 - deafness, 204, 224
 - enclosures, 216
 - feeding, 227
 - grooming, 229
 - hand-taming, 239
 - health problems, 224
 - housing, 203
 - introducing to new home, 220
 - litter box, 219, 234
 - litter-box training, 237–238
 - neutering, 234
 - odor, 204
 - rescue groups, 40
 - scruffing, 233
 - sounds and behavior, understanding, 241–242
 - spaying and neutering, 225
 - special considerations, 204
 - tattoo, 204
 - tendency for trouble, 203
 - time commitment, 203
 - Ferrets For Dummies* (Schilling)
 - fish, cat introduction to, 162
 - FIV (feline immunodeficiency virus), 141, 171
 - Flash and Thelma Memorial Hedgehog Rescue (Web site), 211
 - flea comb, 156–157
 - fleas, 56, 57, 96–97, 142, 169
 - food/feeding. *See specific pet types*
 - Foster Parrots (Web site), 257
 - fostering, 37, 46, 345
 - frogs
 - adoption considerations, 304
 - feeding, 326
 - handling, 336
 - housing, 311, 312
 - Frontline, 97
 - fungal infections, 273, 321
 - FVRCP vaccinations, 168–169
- **G** ●
- garter snakes, 301
 - gerbils
 - basic facts, 207
 - behavior, 244
 - breeding prevention, 226
 - enclosures, 217
 - feeding, 228
 - grooming, 230
 - hand-taming, 239
 - health problems, 225
 - gout, 273
 - green iguanas. *See iguanas*
 - green-winged macaws, 253, 278
 - grooming
 - birds, 265, 280
 - disguised as a checkup, 105–106
 - dogs, 79, 105–108
 - exotics, 327–328
 - products, 79
 - small animals, 229–230
 - grooming supplies, for cats, 156–157
 - guardian breeds, 68–69
 - guinea pigs
 - attention requirements, 205
 - care and maintenance requirements, 205–206
 - feeding, 228
 - grooming, 229
 - hand-taming, 239
 - health problems, 224
 - housing, 205, 216–217
 - rescue groups, 40
 - sounds and behavior, understanding, 243–244
 - tendency for trouble, 206
 - vocalization, 205

• **H** •

- hairballs, in rabbits, 224, 229
- hamsters
 - basic facts, 207
 - behavior, 244
 - biting behavior, 233
 - breeding prevention, 226
 - enclosures, 217
 - feeding, 228
 - grooming, 230
 - hand-taming, 239
 - health problems, 225
- hand-taming pocket pets, 239
- harness, cat, 156, 158
- heartworm, 93, 95–96
- heatstroke, 117, 224
- hedgehogs
 - basic facts, 210
 - enclosures, 217
 - feeding, 228
 - grooming, 230
 - health problems, 225
 - hibernation, 225
- Heel training cue, 122
- herding breeds, 61, 72
- hermit crabs
 - adoption considerations, 305
 - feeding, 327
 - handling, 337
 - housing, 311, 313
- Hermit Crabs For Dummies* (Wilkins), 305
- Herp Vet Connection (Web site), 319
- herp-proofing your home, 307–308
- herps. *See also* exotic pets
 - bites, dealing with, 338
 - enclosures, 309–311
 - escaped, locating, 309
 - hygiene and grooming, 327–328
 - light, heat, bedding, and water, 311–312
 - outdoor housing, 314
- hibernation, hedgehog, 225
- hiding
 - by cats, 191–192
 - by exotics, 322
 - by small animals, 233
- Himalayan (cat breed), 148
- hot spots, 56, 57
- hounds, 61, 70–71
- House Rabbit Society (Web site), 40, 208, 211, 222
- house visit, by rescue group, 44–45
- houseplants, toxic, 152, 274
- housetraining, dog
 - associating word with, 111
 - basics, 110–111
 - choosing a potty spot, 80–81
 - crate training, 112–113
 - doggy day-care centers, 113
 - lapses in, 110
 - leash, use of, 110
 - mistakes, dealing with, 113–114
 - pet sitters, 113
 - praise and reward, 110, 111
 - punishment, 113–114
 - schedule training, 113
 - signs to look for, 110
 - timing of, 111, 113
- housing restrictions, 12–13
- humane societies, 21, 24
- Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), 21, 29, 66, 346
- hunting behavior in cats, 185–186
- hyacinth macaws, 253, 278
- hyperactivity, 62–63, 194
- hypothyroidism, 57

• **I** •

- icons, used in book, 6
- identification tags, 76–77, 156, 192
- iguanas
 - adoption considerations, 301–302
 - feeding, 325
 - handling, 334–335
 - housing, 310, 311, 314
 - sneezing, 323
- Iguanas For Dummies* (Kaplan), 334
- insects, 305–306
- intelligence, of small animals, 244
- interview, rescue group, 42–44

• **J** •

- jumping up, by dogs, 127

• K •

Kaplan, Melissa (*Iguanas For Dummies*), 334
 kennel, 34, 48, 77, 82
 kennel cough, 115
 king snakes, 301
 kittens. *See also* cats
 adoption of, 138–139
 cat-proofing your home, 151–153
 energy level of, 194
 litter box choice for, 154
 litter choice for, 155
 litter-box training, 183–185
 vaccination schedule, 168–169

• L •

Labrador Retrievers For Dummies
 (Walton and Adamson), 2
 landlords, 12
 laws, regarding pets, 12
 leash, 77, 78, 158
 leash-training cats, 192
 leopard geckos, 303, 325
Leopard Geckos For Dummies
 (Palika), 303
 life span chart, 10–11
 litter, 155
 litter box
 cats, 158–159, 183–185
 dog, 79
 ferrets, 219, 234, 237–238
 placement of, 158–159
 rabbits, 219, 234, 238–239
 litter boxes and filler, 154–155
 lizards
 adoption considerations, general, 20–21,
 303–304
 feeding, 325
 handling, 334–335
 housing, 311, 312
 life span, 11
 lorries, 254, 278
 lorikeets, 278
 lovebirds, 254

• M •

macaws, 252–253, 278
 Maine coon (cat breed), 150
 malnutrition
 in dogs, 102
 in exotics, 320
 mange mites, 56, 57, 97
 metabolic bone disease, 320
 mice
 basic facts, 208
 behavior, 244
 breeding prevention, 226
 enclosures, 217
 feeding, 228
 grooming, 230
 hand-taming, 239
 health problems, 225
 microchip, 34, 76–77, 156
 military macaws, 253, 278
 mites
 in birds, 272
 ear, 56
 in exotics, 321, 327–328
 mange, 56, 57, 97
 Moluccan cockatoos, 252
 mosquitoes, 169
 Moustaki, Nikki (*Parrots For Dummies*),
 2, 250, 274, 293
 mouth rot, 321

• N •

nail clipper, 77, 157, 180, 265
 nail trimming
 birds, 280
 cats, 179–181
 dogs, 107–108
 ferret, 229
 rabbit, 230
 names, pet, 10
 National Alternative Pet Association
 (Web site), 346
 National Animal Poison Control Center,
 274, 308
 neighbors, complaints from, 12
 nesting, by birds, 293–294

Netpets Dog Rescue Groups (Web site), 39
 neutering
 cat, 167–168
 discounts on, 168
 dogs, 94
 effect on aggression, 234
 ferret, 204, 225, 234
 rabbit, 225, 234
 reasons for, 341–342
 small animals, 225–226
 newts, 304, 311, 312, 326
 niacin, 173
 nipping, by dogs, 129
 nocturnal behavior, 199, 235
 no-kill animal shelters, 21, 26
 northern breeds, 61, 70
 nutritional deficiencies, 173, 176

• O •

obedience classes, 114–116
 obesity
 in birds, 273
 in cats, 175, 176–177
 odor remover, 114
 1-800-Save-A-Pet (Web site), 29, 211
 onions, 75, 277

• P •

Pacheco's disease, 273
 Palika, Liz
 Leopard Geckos For Dummies, 303
 Turtles & Tortoises For Dummies, 303, 336
 panleukopenia, 168
 parakeets, 255–256
 parasites
 in birds, 272
 in cats, 142, 169
 in dogs, 56–57, 93
 parrot fever, 273
 parrots. *See also* birds
 African grey, 253
 Amazon, 253
 cockatoos, 252
 eclectus, 255
 macaws, 252–253

Parrots For Dummies (Moustaki), 2, 250, 274, 293
 Pavia, Audrey (*Rabbits For Dummies*), 2
 perch cleaner, 264
 perches, 263
 Perfect Pet Profile Quiz, 15–18
 Persian (cat breed), 148–149
 personality, cat, 143–145
 pest control products, 169
 Pet Profile Quiz, Perfect, 15–18
 Pet Rescue.com (Web site), 346
 pet sitters, 113
 pet stores, 29, 306
 Petfinder (Web site), 29, 39, 211, 256
 Pets 911 (Web site), 29, 39, 211, 256
 pheromones, 186–187
 pigeons, 255, 278
 Pion, Paul D. (*Cats For Dummies*), 2
 plants, toxic, 152, 274
 poisoning
 birds, 274
 cats, 152, 172
 dogs, 75
 herps, 308
 signs of, 152
 polyomavirus, 273
 pouncing behavior in cats, 189–191
 ProCare Dental Gel, 108
 psittacosis, 273
 psitticine beak and feather disease, 273
 punishment, 113–114, 289
 puppies. *See also* dogs
 chew toys, 78
 choosing for adoption, 51–52
 den use, 82
 feeding, 100
 housetraining, 110–114
 puppy-proofing home, 74–76
 training classes for, 115
 puppy vaccination schedule, 95
 pythons, 300, 324

• Q •

Quaker parakeets, 254
 quiz, Perfect Pet Profile, 15–18

• R •

rabbit.org (Web site), 40, 211

rabbits

- antibiotic sensitivity, 224
- basic facts, 205
- biting behavior, 233
- boredom, 235
- digging behavior, 234
- feeding, 228
- grooming, 229–230
- hand-taming, 239
- health problems, 224
- hutches and cages, 216
- introducing to new home, 220
- litter box, 219, 234, 238–239
- neutering, 234
- rescue groups, 40
- sounds and behavior, understanding, 242
- spaying and neutering, 225
- urine, 224
- wild, 208

Rabbits For Dummies (Pavia), 2

rabies vaccination, 94, 115, 168

ramps and stairs, for dogs, 79

Rat and Mouse Club Rescue (Web site), 40

Rat Rescue Association (Web site), 211

rat snakes, 301

RatRights (Web site), 40

rats

- attention requirements, 206
- behavior, 243
- biting behavior, 233
- enclosures, 216
- feeding, 228
- grooming, 230
- hand-taming, 239
- health problems, 225
- housing, 207
- tendency for trouble, 207

raw diets, 174

readiness for adoption, assessing

- affording a pet, 13–14
- creative-specific factors, 18–21
- housing restrictions, 12–13
- responsibility, 10
- special-needs pet, 22
- time commitment, 10–11

redirecting bad behavior, 124

Remember icon, 6

reptiles. *See also* exotic pets; *specific types*

- adoption considerations, general, 20–21
- enclosures, 310–311
- iguanas, 301–302
- life span, 11
- light, heat, bedding, and water, 311–312
- lizards, 303–304
- mites, 327–328
- rescue groups, 40
- turtles, 302–303

Reptiles & Amphibians For Dummies

(Bartlett), 2, 299, 304

rescue contract, 47–48

rescue groups

- animal shelters, cooperation with, 24
- basics, 22
- birds, 256–257
- cat temperament testing/information, 145–146
- cons, 38
- contacting, 41
- description, 35–36
- fees, 48
- finding, 38–40
- fostering, 37, 46
- house visit, 44–45
- interview, 42–44
- pet examination, 45–46
- pros, 36–37
- purebred, 66
- questions asked by, 42–44
- questions to ask, 41
- recommendations, 39, 46, 3937
- references, checking, 41–42
- rescue contract, 47–48
- screening process, 40–46
- starting, 346
- supporting local, 345–346
- Web sites, 39–40

Rescue Network (Web site), 40

respiratory infection, 56

retrovirus, 170

Rodent Club (Web site), 40

rodents. *See* small animals; *specific species*

ruffrider.com (Web site), 34, 48

• S •

- salamanders, 304, 311, 312, 326
- sandpaper perches, 280
- sarcoma, vaccination-site, 169
- scarlet macaws, 253
- scenthounds, 71
- schedule training, 113
- Schilling, Kim (*Ferrets For Dummies*)
- scorpions, 305, 306, 312–313, 327
- scratching behavior in cats, 186–188, 189–191
- scratching posts, 156
- screening process, rescue groups, 40–46
- seat belt, dog, 77, 117
- seed, 276
- seizure, 99, 171
- self-mutilation, by birds, 273–274, 287
- separation anxiety, by dogs, 130
- sexual behaviors, in small animals, 232
- shampoo, 77, 79, 181
- shedding, 323
- shelters, for small animals, 219
- shock collars, 126
- shyness
 - in cats, 191–192
 - in dogs, 62
- Siamese (cat breed), 149
- sighthounds, 70
- Sit training cue, 120
- small animals. *See also specific types*
 - adjustment problems, 220
 - adoption considerations, general, 19–20
 - appeal of, 200
 - bedding, 218
 - breeding, preventing, 225–226
 - cat introduction to, 162
 - children and, 201–202, 220
 - chinchillas, 209
 - choosing right type, 203–211
 - considerations for adoption, 199–202
 - critter-proofing your home, 214
 - dog introduction to, 88
 - enclosures, 215–218
 - feeding, 227–229
 - ferrets, 203–204
 - finding adoptable, 210–211
 - first-year costs, 13–14
 - food, 218
 - free-roaming, 214–215
 - gerbils, 207
 - grooming, 229–230
 - guinea pigs, 205–206
 - hamsters, 207
 - handling, limits of, 219
 - hand-taming, 239
 - health problems, 222–223, 223–225
 - hedgehogs, 210
 - hunting by cats, 186
 - intelligence, 244
 - introducing to new home, 219–220
 - life span, 11
 - litter-box training, 237–239
 - mouse, 208
 - preparing home for, 213–215
 - rabbits, 205, 208
 - rats, 206–207
 - rescue groups, 40
 - signs of illness, 226–227
 - sounds and movements, interpreting, 241–244
 - supplies, 215–219
 - training, 236–241
 - veterinarian, finding, 222–223
 - when to avoid, 201
- small animals behavior
 - accepting unchangeable, 235
 - age of adopted animal, effect of, 231–232
 - aggression, 233–234
 - biting, 232–233
 - chewing and digging, 234
 - elimination, 234
 - excess energy, 234
 - hiding, 233
 - physical problems and, 236
 - sexual, 232
 - sounds and movements, interpreting, 241–244
- snakes. *See also exotic pets*
 - adoption considerations, general, 20–21
 - constrictors, 300
 - enclosures, 310–311
 - feeding, 324
 - handling, 332–334
 - life span, 11
 - small species, 301
 - Stargazer's disease, 322

- socialization
 - bird, 288–289, 290
 - dog, 85, 116–117
 - soft paws (claw covers), 188
 - Southern California Rabbit and Small Animal Rescue Association (Web site), 211
 - Spadafori, Gina (*Cats For Dummies*), 2
 - spaying
 - cat, 167–168
 - discounts on, 168
 - dogs, 94
 - ferrets, 225
 - rabbits, 225
 - reasons for, 341–342
 - small animals, 225–226
 - special-needs pet, 22, 31, 141
 - spiders, 305–306, 312–313, 326, 336.
 - See also* tarantulas
 - sporting breeds, 60, 69
 - spot-on treatment, 97
 - stain removal, 114
 - Stargazer's disease, 322
 - Stay training cue, 121
 - Step-up (training cue), 291–292
 - strangulation hazards, 74
 - stray cats, 137, 140–141
 - submissive urination, 46
 - sulfur-crested cockatoos, 252
- T •**
- tarantulas
 - adoption considerations, 305–306
 - feeding, 327
 - mites, 328
 - taming, 336–337
 - tartar, 56, 108
 - taurine, 173
 - tear stains, 55, 107
 - teeth
 - cleaning, 108
 - dog, 56
 - overgrown or misaligned, 223, 224
 - small animal, 223, 224
 - temperament
 - assessing at animal shelter, 31
 - birds, 251
 - cat, 143–146
 - dog's, 58–64
 - temperament, dog
 - bad, 59
 - basics, 62–63
 - breeds and, 59–61
 - chill-outers, 63
 - go-getters, 63
 - health problems and, 58
 - personality types, 63–64
 - testing, 58–64
 - wait-and-seers, 64
 - warning signs, 62–63
 - terriers, 61, 71, 88
 - theobromine, 175
 - Therapy Dogs International (Web site), 116
 - ticks, 56, 57, 96–97, 169, 328
 - Timneh African grey parrots, 253
 - Tip icon, 6
 - titer tests, 94
 - toads, handling, 336
 - toxins, cat-specific, 152
 - toy breeds, 61
 - toys
 - bird, 264
 - for birds, 249
 - for cats, 157
 - dog, 78, 79
 - trainer, dog, 29, 115, 134
 - training, bird
 - cage-free manners, 292–293
 - clicker training, 289
 - description, 289
 - hand-training, 290–291
 - shoulder behavior, 292
 - socialization, 290
 - step-up cue, 291–292
 - training, cat
 - clicker training, 196
 - leash-training, 192
 - litter-box, 183–185
 - obedience, 195–196

training, dog
 basic training cues, 118–123
 buckle collars, 116
 Canine Good Citizen certification,
 115, 116
 classes, 114–116
 clicker training, 116–117, 118
 Come cue, 119
 crate, 112–113
 Down cue, 121–122
 Heel cue, 122–123
 housetraining, 110–114
 reward, 118–119
 Sit cue, 120
 socialization strategies, 116–117
 Stay cue, 121
 trainers, locating, 115
 training, exotics, 329–331
 training, small animals
 come on cue, 241
 description, 236–237
 hand-taming, 239–240
 litter-box training ferrets, 237–238
 litter-box training rabbits, 238–239
 transporting
 birds, 264, 266, 272
 exotics, 314–315
 pets, general, 34, 48, 117
 trash, 74–75
 traveling with your pet, 153
 tumors, 57
 tunnels, for small animals, 219
 turtles
 adoption considerations, 302–303
 biting, 335
 feeding, 326
 handling, 335
 housing, 311, 314
Turtles & Tortoises For Dummies (Palika),
 303, 336

• U •

umbrella cockatoos, 252
 United Kennel Club (Web site), 67
 urinary blockage, 172

• V •

vaccinations
 cat, 168–169
 dog, 94–95, 115–116
 sarcoma from, 169
 vegetarian diet, 173
 veterinarian
 animal shelter recommendations from, 29
 annual exam for cats, 172
 annual exam for dogs, 99
 avian, 262, 270–272
 choosing for cat, 166
 choosing for dog, 92
 deworming cats, 168
 emergency availability, 171, 320
 examination by prior to adoption, 31, 55
 exotic pets, 317, 318–320
 first exam for cat, 166–169
 first exam for dog, 93
 preparing dog for visit, 93
 rescue group recommendations, 39
 separation anxiety treatment, 131
 for small animals, 221–223
 spaying/neutering cats, 167–168
 vaccinations for cats, 168–169
 vinegar, white, 114
 viral infections, in birds, 273
 vitamin A, 173, 273, 320
 vitamin C, 228
 vocalization
 bird, 247–248, 252–255, 285–286
 cat, 193
 ferret, 241
 guinea pig, 243
 rabbit, 242
 volunteering, 30, 37, 345

• W •

Walton, Joel (*Labrador Retrievers For
 Dummies*), 2
 Warning! icon, 6
 water bottle, 218

Web sites

altpet.net, 40

American Dog Owner's Association, Inc., 346

American Ferret Association, 40, 211

American Kennel Club, 39, 67, 116

American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), 29, 256, 346

anapsid.org, 40, 317

Animal Behavior Society, 134, 195

animal shelters, 28–29

ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center, 75

Association of Avian Veterinarians (AAV), 271

Association of Pet Dog Trainers, 115

Association of Reptilian and Amphibian Veterinarians (ARAV), 319

Avian Rescue, 40, 257

Avian Web, 40

Bird Adoption.org, 257

Bird Placement Program, 40, 257

birdrescue.com, 257

cavyrescue.com, 40, 211

Chinchilla Rescue, 211

Colorado Herpetological Society, 317

Cyber-Pet, 346

Delta Society, 116

Fédération Cynologique Internationale, 67

Feline Rescue Network, 39

Ferret Central, 40

Flash and Thelma Memorial Hedgehog Rescue, 211

Foster Parrots, 257

Herp Vet Connection, 319

House Rabbit Society, 40, 208, 211, 222

Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), 29, 346

National Alternative Pet Association, 346

Netpets Dog Rescue Groups, 39

1-800-Save-A-Pet, 29, 211

Pet Rescue.com, 346

Petfinder, 29, 211, 256

Pets 911, 29, 39, 211, 256

rabbit.org, 40, 211

Rat and Mouse Club Rescue, 40

Rat Rescue Association, 211

RatRights, 40

rescue groups, 39–40

Rescue Network, 40

Rodent Club, 40

ruffrider.com, 34, 48

Southern California Rabbit and Small Animal Rescue Association, 211

Therapy Dogs International, 116

United Kennel Club, 67

World Animal Net, 29

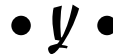
Wiley Publishing, Inc. (*Dog Health and Nutrition For Dummies*), 100Wilkins, Kelli A. (*Hermit Crabs For Dummies*), 305

wing clipping, 261–262

working breeds, 60

World Animal Net (Web site), 29

worms, parasitic, 58, 93, 95, 272



yeast infections, in birds, 273, 279