

Paper Rolls and Glue, is it safe?

Category: Companion Parrot Toys, Cages and Foraging

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I had a great question come my way continuing on the debate of paper towel roll usage. What of the glue? It must be dangerous, right? Here's the answer for 2015. Again, the rumors started a long time ago, times change. Laws change, costs change for manufacturers.

Toilet paper tubes are a problem because of where they spend their time. I never use Toilet Paper tubes. I DO use Paper Towel tubes, hence Felix's Burrito Paper Towel Roll Toy.

The glue itself has been a point of contention it seems forever. The fear factor came in when someone somewhere claimed the glue contained zinc. The zinc they claim came into play because the paper used to make the cardboard rolls is made of recycled papers from company/corp office collections. Bear with me this gets kinda complicated, but it's the real answer; Two of the majors making rolled paper products say there is no zinc in the GLUE, but MAY BE trace amounts in the roll themselves due to the fact that it derives from recycled office papers possibly containing inks from printing and the cast off staples not caught or shredded.

To get the real answer, you need to go to the source of the glues, not the recycled papers. That's where the rumor went wrong down the gossip trail. The good news: In today's recycling world, and environmental laws and cost of manufacturing, brands use STARCH GLUE for layered paper applications (paper bags) corrugated box construction (cardboard boxes) toilet and paper towel rolls (the item in question) What is Starch Glue? It's a vegetable based adhesive.

As far as the possibility of trace amounts of zinc in the roll, recycling manufacturers say no. It's not possible due to processes.

Consider this thought; if you have C hooks or hanging hooks in your cages today that are not Stainless Steel, you have zinc available in your cages today. TRACE amounts MAY be transmitted IF you parrot chews the living snot out of the metal thereby revealing some area on the metal that can transmit that base element if he sucks on it long enough, maybe. Seriously, those C hooks and metal parts on toys are more likely to deliver a dose of trace zinc than a paper towel roll.

No I'm not downplaying metal overdose. I am up playing facts. If you fear recycled products you probably do not want to know the real background, source and handling of 90% of the parrot toys on the market.

Together we can give every parrot everywhere, a happy home!

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