In general the husbandry of turtles and tortoises as pets is controversial discussed in view of the particular characteristics of the different species. In this study the problems of the management of keeping these pets and the aspects of the physiological and ecological interactions are demonstrated. After giving a survey about the anatomy, the physiological properties and their interactions with ecological factors are illustrated. With regard to these interactions the different species are perfectly triggered to their natural habitat. Therefore the general consideration on reptiles as a primitive sort of life is not quite adequate. The management of keeping pet turtles and tortoises has to build up on the climatic and structural properties of their habitats. A survey about the geographical distribution and the properties of the habitat of different species are demonstrated in a table. The different aspects of the management of captive chelonians and the practical performance of specispecific requirements are illustrated. The providing of adequate temperature, illumination and nutrition are particularly significant. After giving a survey about diseases relying on poor management, the problems of chelonian husbandry according to the characteristic needs of the different species with respect to the physiology and ecology in general and to some factors of management, inclusive the habits of the pet keeper himself, in particular are discussed.

In conclusion the quality of the management of keeping turtles and tortoises as pets has to be differentiated with regard to the requirements of the different species and the owner's capability to perform these needs.