



Crested Gecko



Origin: New Caledonia, an island east of Australia

Size: 8 inches in total length maximum

Life Span: 15-20 years

Heat and Lighting: 78-82 degrees during the day and low 70s at night

- Use a low-wattage heat and light-emitting bulb to create a basking area; this should be on for appx. 12 hours per day and turned off at night.
- You can also use an under-tank heater to provide warmth
- They do *not* require UVB if fed a diet with Vitamin D3 (part of powdered diet)

Housemates: A single male and multiple females, or multiple females can be kept together.

Tank setup:

- **Substrate:** A natural substrate such as coconut soil is best for retaining moisture, controlling odors and providing them a comfortable environment.
- Crested Geckos *love* to climb – provide wood branches and vines.

Diet: Powdered “Crested Gecko Diet” is the most nutritionally complete diet you can feed your gecko. “Repashy” or “Pangea” brands are an excellent choice.

- Can also supplement with crickets, dubia roaches and other insects (no longer than the width of the gecko’s head)
- Suggested schedule: powdered diet every other day, a few insects once or twice per week

Water and Humidity: Provide a relative humidity of 50-70% by either keeping the substrate misted or providing moistened sphagnum moss. A water bowl can be provided, but you may find they do not drink from it but rather may prefer licking moisture off of the side of the tank.

Temperament: Allow geckos to settle in for 3-4 weeks to adjust before handling them, and then start with short handling sessions.

- They seldom bite but can be flighty when they are young.
- They are nocturnal

Tail Loss: They can ‘drop’ their tails if they are pinched or squeezed, and are one of the few lizards that do not regenerate their tails.