



Leopard Gecko

Origin: Dry, rocky highlands of central Asia & Pakistan

Size: 6-9 inches long (full size in 9-12 months)

Life Span: 20+ years with proper care



Heat and Lighting:

- Use a low-wattage heat lamp to create a basking area; this should be on 24/7.
- You can also use an under-tank heater to provide warmth
- Keep a UVB light on 12 hours per day to provide UVB and visible light.

Tank setup:

- A 10-20 gallon tank is recommended
- Provide at least one hiding area – use non-toxic plants, branches, or logs as décor
- Provide a hide box filled with moist moss to assist with shedding properly.
- Substrate: we most recommend reptile carpet. Paper towels and newspaper can be used as well. Avoid loose substrates as your gecko could accidentally ingest them.

Diet: Only Insectivores

- A well-balanced gecko diet consists of crickets, superworms or mealworms, or waxworms.
- Crickets should be gut-loaded (recently fed, so enriched with calcium), and no larger than the space between the gecko's eyes.
- Feed juveniles daily, and adults approximately every other day. The general rule is to feed 2 insects per inch of animal at each feeding, but monitor your gecko's eating habits and feed as much as he/she will eat in about 10 minutes.

Water and Humidity: Water should be available at all times, and cleaned regularly. The tank should be dry except for the moss box to keep humidity low.

Temperament & Handling:

- Allow geckos to settle in for 3-4 weeks to adjust before handling them, and then start with short handling sessions. Handling them on a flat surface such as a bed is best.
- They are nocturnal
- They eat their skin while shedding

Tail Loss: Never grab or hold a gecko's tail! They can 'drop' their tails if they are pinched or squeezed, and can re-grow them in approximately 40 days, but it is stressful for them.

Housemates: A single male and multiple females, or multiple females can be kept together. Multiple males should *never* be kept together.