



welcome  
to the family

# reptile parent

YOUR GUIDE TO COMPLETE CARE



## HAPPINESS BEYOND YOUR WILDEST DREAMS

Adding a gecko, bearded dragon, frog, snake or turtle to the family is like welcoming a bit of wonder into your home. They're beautiful, exotic and almost mythical, like miniature dinosaurs or dragons. Welcome to the endlessly entertaining world of being a reptile parent.

## reptile parent

YOUR GUIDE TO COMPLETE CARE

**petco** unleashed by petco

We'll help you navigate the exciting journey into living with a pet reptile every step of the way. Get started with these helpful tips, shopping checklists, exclusive savings and more!

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# congratulations

ON YOUR COLD-BLOODED COMPANION

## FROM DAY ONE

Adding a reptile to your family is a fun-filled occasion that can also raise a lot of questions. This book provides lots of quick, handy tips to help get you through those confusing first days.

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU

When adding a reptile to the family, it's helpful to understand the similarities and differences among the various species. You may have had a snake in the past, but that doesn't mean living with a turtle will be a similar experience!

### CRESTED GECKOS

- Tolerate gentle handling
- Have a life expectancy of up to 10 years
- Are nocturnal
- Multiple males should not be kept together

### WHITE'S TREE FROGS\*

- Avoid handling unless necessary
- Have a life expectancy of up to 10 years
- Are nocturnal
- Prefer to live in groups

### LEOPARD GECKOS

- Tolerate gentle handling
- Have a life expectancy of up to 20 years
- Are nocturnal
- Multiple males should not be kept together

### BEARDED DRAGONS

- Tolerate gentle handling
- Have a life expectancy of up to 10 years
- Mostly active during daylight hours
- Multiple males should not be kept together

### CORN SNAKES

- Tolerate gentle handling (note: During their first week home and shedding periods, they prefer to be left alone)
- Have a life expectancy of up to 20 years
- Most active during daylight hours
- Adult corn snakes can live together

### BALL PYTHONS

- Tolerate gentle handling (note: During their first week home and shedding periods, they prefer to be left alone)
- Have a life expectancy of up to 30 years
- Are nocturnal
- Generally recommend one per habitat

### AQUATIC TURTLES

- Avoid handling unless necessary
- Have a life expectancy of up to 40 years
- Most active during daylight hours
- Multiple males should not be kept together

\*Yes, we realize frogs are amphibians, not reptiles. However, we didn't want to leave them out!



## HOW OFTEN SHOULD I CLEAN MY REPTILE'S HABITAT?

Clean and disinfect your pet's home weekly. We recommend removing your reptile prior to cleaning and keeping them in a Kritter Keeper or other temporary habitat that has a secure latching lid.

## HOW OFTEN SHOULD I FEED MY NEW PET?

- Crested geckos should be fed crested gecko food every night and given insects two to three times per week
- White's tree frogs need to eat daily as juveniles and then every other day as adults
- Leopard geckos need to eat insects daily that are no bigger than the space between their eyes
- Bearded dragons should be fed daily with uneaten fruits and veggies removed after 24 hours
- Corn snakes and ball pythons need to eat appropriately sized frozen rodents once per week as juveniles, and every one to two weeks as adults. It's safest to feed snakes in a separate tank
- Aquatic turtles must be fed daily in water. Adding fruits and veggies to their diet will help ensure well-rounded meals.

## DO I NEED TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FOOD SUPPLEMENTS?

Sprinkle calcium on your reptile's (or frog's) food daily and give them a multivitamin once or twice a week.

## GIVE THEM THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF HUMIDITY

Providing proper humidity is essential for the life of your reptile or amphibian. Whether they're from the desert or a more tropical environment, each species thrives with the perfect balance. Have questions on humidity levels for your pet? Talk to a store partner or ask a veterinarian on PetCoach.com.

# scales, tails and supplies to get you started

Below are the basics to get through your first few days smoothly. It's best to set up your new pet's habitat BEFORE you bring them home. Petco makes it easy to get what your pet needs.

**NOTE:** We recommend reptile starter kits for many pet parents. Most include a terrarium with a top, food and water dishes, humidity gauge, thermometer, substrate and décor. Petco carries a variety of kits, including tropical, desert and species-specific. Talk to an in-store partner to determine whether a kit is the best option for you and your new reptile.

## TROPICAL COMPANION

We recommend a tropical kit to provide the basic elements of your habitat.

### CRESTED GECKO

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriately sized habitat (minimum 10 to 20 gallons) | <input type="checkbox"/> Shed box              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mulch-type substrate                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Crested gecko food    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Moss   | <input type="checkbox"/> Vita-Bugs crickets    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hideaway   | <input type="checkbox"/> Cricket food          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Climbing décor   | <input type="checkbox"/> Cricket quencher      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plants   | <input type="checkbox"/> Cricket keeper        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heat light (with fixture)*                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Vitamin supplement    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under-tank heater or heat emitter for use 24/7         | <input type="checkbox"/> Calcium supplement    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thermometer  | <input type="checkbox"/> Food and water dishes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Humidity gauge   |  |

### WHITE'S TREE FROG

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriately sized habitat (minimum 10 to 20 gallons) | <input type="checkbox"/> Humidity gauge     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mulch-type substrate                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Vita-Bugs crickets |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Moss   | <input type="checkbox"/> Cricket food       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Climbing décor   | <input type="checkbox"/> Cricket quencher   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plants   | <input type="checkbox"/> Cricket keeper     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under-tank heater or heat emitter*                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Vitamin supplement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> UVB lighting and fixture                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Calcium supplement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thermometer  | <input type="checkbox"/> Water dish         |

\*Ask a store partner for how much heat to provide.

## DESERT COMPANION

We recommend a desert kit to provide the basic elements of your habitat.

### LEOPARD GECKO

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriately sized habitat (minimum 10 to 20 gallons) | <input type="checkbox"/> Shed box                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Substrate (calci-sand or terrarium carpet recommended) | <input type="checkbox"/> Vita-Bugs crickets and worms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Moss (for shedding)                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Cricket food                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hideaway   | <input type="checkbox"/> Cricket quencher             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Climbing décor   | <input type="checkbox"/> Cricket keeper               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plants   | <input type="checkbox"/> Vitamin supplement           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heat light (with fixture) for daytime use*             | <input type="checkbox"/> Calcium supplement           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under-tank heater or heat emitter for use 24/7         | <input type="checkbox"/> Water dish                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thermometer  | <input type="checkbox"/> Worm dish                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Humidity gauge   |   |

### BEARDED DRAGON

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriately sized habitat (20 gallons for babies, 40 gallons or larger for adults) | <input type="checkbox"/> Shed box                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Substrate (calci-sand or terrarium carpet recommended)                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Bearded dragon food                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Moss (for shedding)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Treats (including fruits and vegetables) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hideaway   | <input type="checkbox"/> Vita-Bugs crickets and worms             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Climbing décor   | <input type="checkbox"/> Cricket food                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plants   | <input type="checkbox"/> Cricket quencher                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heat light (with fixture) for daytime use*   | <input type="checkbox"/> Cricket keeper                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under-tank heater or heat emitter for use 24/7                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Vitamin supplement                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> UVB lighting and fixture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Calcium supplement                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thermometer  | <input type="checkbox"/> Food and water dishes                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Humidity gauge   | <input type="checkbox"/> Worm dish                                |



\*Ask a store partner for how much heat to provide.

**SNAKE AND TURTLE**

We recommend a snake kit to provide the base elements of your habitat.

**BALL PYTHON AND CORN SNAKE**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriately sized habitat with secure screen cover (minimum 10 to 20 gallons) | <input type="checkbox"/> Under-tank heater or heat emitter for use 24/7 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mulch-type substrate or aspen shavings  | <input type="checkbox"/> Thermometer                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Moss  | <input type="checkbox"/> Humidity gauge                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hideaway  | <input type="checkbox"/> Shed box                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Climbing décor  | <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriately sized frozen rodents             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plants  | <input type="checkbox"/> Water dish                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heat light (with fixture)*  |   |

We have everything you need to set up the perfect aquatic turtle home.

**AQUATIC TURTLE**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriately sized habitat (minimum 40 gallons) | <input type="checkbox"/> UVB lighting and fixture       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Substrate-slate, rock, gravel too large to eat   | <input type="checkbox"/> Thermometer                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heat light (with fixture)*                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic turtle food and treats |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basking area                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Water conditioner              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Submersible heater                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Water filter                   |



\*Ask a store partner for how much heat to provide.

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**20% off****Zoo Med Reptile Heating & Lighting**

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**10% off****Imagarium Reptile Substrate**

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**10% off****Imagarium Bowl or Décor for Reptiles**

Any one hideaway, plant or bowl.

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