



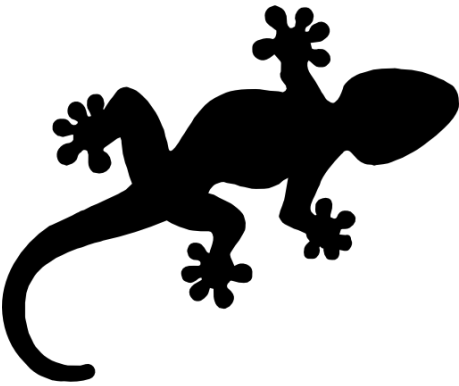
Pet Care Sheet: Leopard Gecko

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FUN FACT!

Many geckos lack eyelids, but not leopard geckos! They can even blink and close their eyes while sleeping.



General Diet

Leopard Geckos are mainly insectivores, so they eat mostly insects such as small crickets. As adults they may also eat the occasional pinkie mouse. These can be bought frozen and are very good for geckos.



Vitamins/Supplements

Reptiles need to have a vitamin/mineral supplement with calcium phosphorous. This supplement should be sprinkled on the adult's food items once a week or 2 times a week for very young reptiles. We will be glad to explain how often to feed and give supplements to your new pet.

Treats/Food

Wax worms make great treats and most geckos take well to eating them. Make sure not to feed them too many, as wax worms are higher in calories. If they are given frozen pinkie mice, they must be thawed out first and brought to room temperature before being fed. Never feed a reptile cold food or food too big for it to eat easily.

Housing

Leopard geckos stay relatively small, so a juvenile individual can be kept in a ten-gallon tank. Although a 20-gallon long tank is better for an adult, three or more may be kept as a colony in a larger tank as long as only one of the geckos is a male. A screen should be used on top.

Reptiles are cold blooded. This means that they get their heat from an outside source, unlike humans who can make their own heat. Different areas of the habitat should be at different temperatures, so reptiles can move around to heat up or cool off. Leopard geckos are comfortable with daytime temperature in their tank of 85-90 degrees and a nighttime temperature of 68-75. Heat pads can also be used in addition to the heat bulb if the tank is especially large or if the room is cool.

Leopard geckos like low humidity in their tank and should be misted lightly once or twice a week. Keep a small dish of water in the tank as well. Have caves available as these reptiles like hiding places. Use the appropriate reptile litter or substrate on the bottom.

Sanitation/General Care

Change the water every other day and clean out the water dish thoroughly twice a week. The litter or substrate on the bottom should be cleaned as often as needed, and this will depend on the size of the tank, the reptiles size, and the number of reptiles in the tank, as well as type of substrate used.



General Maintenance

Mist the tank lightly once or twice a week. Reptiles will shed their skin periodically. Mist them more often during this time to help them shed the skin more easily. Be sure the tank is at the right temperature at all times.

Health Care

Leopard geckos are generally very hardy and healthy when kept in the right conditions. They do not require any yearly check ups or vaccines.

Special Section- Handling Precaution




Reptiles can carry one disease that can be transmitted to people called salmonellosis. It is always important to wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water after you have handled your pet or anything in your pet's cage. Keep your pet out of the kitchen area, and do not allow very small children to handle any reptiles.

SUPPLIES CHECKLIST

<input type="checkbox"/> Fish tank (10 or 20 gallon)	<input type="checkbox"/> Heat pad (optional)
<input type="checkbox"/> Screen top	<input type="checkbox"/> Water/food dish
<input type="checkbox"/> Hygrometer	<input type="checkbox"/> Calcium based sand or sand mat
<input type="checkbox"/> Heat lamp with nocturnal heat bulb	<input type="checkbox"/> Caves for hiding
<input type="checkbox"/> Heat lamp with Day bulb	<input type="checkbox"/> Vitamin/Mineral supplement
<input type="checkbox"/> Thermometer (2 for a larger cage)	<input type="checkbox"/> Decorations
<input type="checkbox"/> Moss (for hiding spot)	<input type="checkbox"/> Timer(optional)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



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