

# Care Guide



## Coatimundi

(*Nasua narica*) / (*Nasua nasua*)

### Facts:

Average adult size: **10 to 18 lbs**

Average life span: **up to 15+ with proper care**

Diet: **Omnivore**



Coatis are mammals found in Central, North and South America, and are related to the raccoon. Coatis have strong limbs to climb and dig, and they are extremely intelligent. Coatis are diurnal (awake during the day) and have very outgoing personalities.

### Feeding & Nutrition:

#### Food (4 to 12 weeks old)

- Feeding Mixture
  - 1 cup Esbilac Goats Milk Replacer (or for puppies)
  - 2 cups warm water
  - 1 Tablespoon of baby Rice Cereal
  - Dribble of honey or karo syrup
  - Lactace tablet – 1 pill per cup of mixture if stool is loose
- Feed 1 to 2 oz of milk mixture per feeding 4 times a day
  - 8:00 AM; 12:00 PM; 4:00 PM; 8:00 PM
- At 8 weeks begin introducing dog food, fruits, and vegetables

#### Food (after 12 weeks old)

- 60% High grade, grain free dog food
- 10% Fresh fruit
- 20% Poultry, beef, or eggs
- 10-20% Vegetables
- Do not feed chocolate, caffeine or alcohol as these can cause serious medical conditions.
- When feeding coatis you should scatter the food about their enclosure and hide it inside and under objects to encourage a natural foraging behavior.

#### Water

- Fresh water should be provided daily in water bottles to prevent contamination.
- Bottles need to be kept clean inside by soaking in a 10% bleach solution for ten minutes every two to three weeks and then scrubbed out with soap and a bottle brush. Bottles should be completely replaced with new ones every six months.

#### Treats

- **Treats** – Gut loaded crickets, mealworms, and pieces of cereal or crackers. Prickly pear fruits are a favorite of coatis and can be used as a training reward.

### Housing:

#### Cage

- Outdoor cage size can be around 5'x10' or larger. They seem to prefer the outdoor cages because it is roomier and they get to be in the sun.

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- Indoor cage size can be approximately 3'x4'x8'.
- Openings between the wires should be small enough so the habitat is escape-proof.
- Habitat should also include a hammock, cage ropes, and toys.
  - They prefer to sleep or rest in elevated places and hammocks.
- It is best to provide the largest habitat possible.
- **Different types of exotic animals should not be housed together.**

## Habitat Maintenance

- Clean the habitat and its contents at least once a week with mild soap and water, rinse and dry completely before placing back into the habitat.
- Clean selected restroom area daily; change bedding at least once a week, or more often as necessary.

## Care:

### Grooming & Hygiene

- Monthly baths are recommended, or more often as necessary.
- Nails should be trimmed every three to four weeks.

### Health

- Active and social when awake.
- Shiny coat and clear eyes.
- Eats and drinks regularly

### Vaccines & Deworming

- There are no licensed vaccines for coatis but some veterinarians will use canine and/or feline vaccines.
- Monthly flea/tick baths.
- Regular deworming.

### Neutering & Spaying

- Male coatis can become very aggressive once they are sexually mature.
- Neutering can be performed by an exotics veterinarian and is recommended before the coati reaches 6 months of age.
- Females can become aggressive when they are in heat so spaying them is recommended for a more even tempered coati.

## Recommended Supplies:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate Size Habitat        | <input type="checkbox"/> Toys                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hammocks                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Harness and Leash           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High-quality Dog or Ferret Food | <input type="checkbox"/> Odor Control Drops          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Treats                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Shampoo                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food bowl/Water bottle          | <input type="checkbox"/> Esbilac Goats Milk Replacer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rice Cereal                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Honey or Karo Syrup         |

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