

Care Guide



Iguana

(includes red, green and blue iguanas)

Facts:

Average adult size: **4 to 6 feet**

Average life span: **15+ years with proper care**

Diet: **Herbivore**



Iguanas can grow up to six feet in total length. Some young Iguanas are bright green, which help camouflage their bodies in the green leaves of the rainforest. Iguanas come in different color variations such as red, green or blue.

Will reach adult size in 2-3 years, under ideal conditions; upgrade habitat size as your reptile grows.

Feeding & Nutrition:

Diet

- 70% dark leafy greens such as collard greens and spinach; 20% bulk vegetables such as cabbage, carrots and broccoli; 10% fruit such as mango, banana and strawberries.
- Iguanas benefit from being fed a pelleted Iguana diet.

Feeding

- Fresh, clean, chlorine-free water should be available at all times.
- Feed once a day.
- Food should be chopped, shredded, or grated into small chunks.
- Sprinkle food with calcium supplement daily and a multi-vitamin supplement once or twice a week.
- Vegetables and fruits not eaten within 24 hours should be discarded.

Housing:

- **Size** - appropriate size habitat with secure cover; as the Iguana grows, a larger habitat will be required. The Iguana should be able to freely turn and move around in the habitat.
- **Habitat** - provide a hiding area; branches for basking. Maintain 70-90% humidity by misting as needed every day.
- **Substrate** - repti-carpet or an edible substrate.
- **Temperature** - temperature gradient (100°F for the warm end and 70°F for the cool end); recommend radiant heat. Use an incandescent light or ceramic heater as primary heat source.
- **Lighting** - UVB rays with full spectrum lighting for 10-12 hours a day is required. An incandescent day bulb can be used for basking area during daylight hours only; can use a ceramic heater or black or red incandescent at all hours.
- **House adult Iguanas separately and do not house different reptile species together.**

Habitat Maintenance

- Thoroughly clean the habitat at least once a week: place Iguana in a secure habitat; scrub the tank and furnishings with a 3% bleach solution; rinse thoroughly with water, removing all traces of bleach smell. Dry the tank and furnishings completely and add clean substrate.

Note: The information in this Care Guide is not a substitute for veterinary care. If you need additional information, please contact your veterinarian as appropriate.

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Care:

Grooming & Hygiene

- Iguanas regularly shed their skin; ensure humidity of habitat is at appropriate level to allow proper shedding. To facilitate shedding, bathe in a large container that allows the Iguana to immerse its entire body or provide a shed box, which is essentially a hide box with sphagnum moss that will aid in the shedding process.
- Trim an Iguana's nails as needed.

Health

- Active, alert, and interested in humans
- Clear eyes
- Body and tail are rounded, filled out
- Healthy skin
- Clear nose and vent
- Eats regularly

Normal Behavior

- May become tame with daily handling.
- Bob their head as a means of communication.
- Males may become territorial.
- Healthy Iguanas sneeze to rid their bodies of excess salt.

Recommended Supplies:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate Size Habitat | <input type="checkbox"/> Heat Fixture & Bulb |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Food | <input type="checkbox"/> UVB Fixture & Bulb |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Substrate | <input type="checkbox"/> Calcium Supplement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Moss | <input type="checkbox"/> Vitamin Supplement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food/Water Dish | <input type="checkbox"/> Thermometer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Climbing Décor /Plants | <input type="checkbox"/> Humidity Gauge |

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