

# Newts & Salamander Care Sheet

(includes Fire-bellied Newts & Tiger Salamanders)

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## **Facts:**

The Flying Gecko, also known as moderately sized lizard, the Flying Gecko can reach up to eight inches in length. Males can be distinguished from females by their lack of visible pores. Flying Geckos have a thin fold of skin that extends from the feet up the sides of their bodies. This flap of skin is what enables the Flying Gecko to glide.

The Thick-Fingered Gecko, is thought by many aficionados to be the most interesting of all the arboreal gecko species. They are attractive, entertaining little animals. Although its name would suggest otherwise, the Flying Gecko cannot fly. They will, however, glide from tree to tree (or branch to branch) when disturbed or hungry. The Flying Gecko is an arboreal species, meaning it spends most of its time in trees. They are nocturnal and are rarely, if ever, active during the day. Flying Geckos feed primarily on insects. They are shy animals and are usually hiding. The Flying Gecko blends in well with plants, soil, and bark, a natural defense mechanism against predators. While the average life of a Flying Gecko is around three years, some can live eight years or longer.

Males can become territorial, separate from other males. Hyperactive and hard to hold. Provide dense foliage. This species is nocturnal (active primarily at night).

## **Diet / Feeding:**

There is a wide variety of food for this gecko like: crickets, mealworms, wax worms, flies etc. Some geckos also eat small pinky mice or small lizards.

You should dust(vitamin) your cricket box or cage at all feedings.

## **Housing:**

Terrarium with clean soil, tropical house plants and wood pieces. This gecko acclimates to captivity if the cage has a lot of cover (plants, house, wood). For shelter use empty coconut shell, wood against the back wall so it is away from human eyes. You should have a large bowl for soaking and drinking.

Good lighting is recommended if u have live plants. You should have the lighting a schedule that can vary seasonally for a little as 8 hours of daylight to as much as 14 hours.

## **Temperature:**

You should keep a temperature at about 82-88F. The night temperatures drop to about 70F TEMPERATURES HIGHER THAN 88 CAN BE USED BUT FOR NOT A LONG TIME! I would not use a hot rock the gecko rarely uses it. The humidity should be high because they are forest dwellers. Daily spray with mister and a large water bowl. If you get a soil base and live plants will help keep the humidity up. You should have some dry areas. You need air to come in the cage; too much humidity is dangerous so make sure you have ventilation or your pet will get sick!

Day temperature should be gradient from 78-86 degrees F. Maintain night temperature range between 72-80 degrees F. Use reptile heating pads under tank for 24-hours heat. The equipment you will need is (wood, housing, misting bottle, plant live or fake, soil, vines so it can climb, light, 10-20gal tank, insects and vitamins.)

### **Normal Behavior:**

- Growing salamanders molt every few days to every few weeks; they usually eat the shed skin.
- Newts breathe oxygen and hold their breath when they dive.

### **Habitat Maintenance:**

Thoroughly clean the habitat at least once a week: place amphibian in a secure habitat; scrub the tank and furnishings; rinse thoroughly with hot water; dry the tank and furnishings completely and add clean substrate.

Don't handle unless necessary; always wear latex gloves when handling your amphibian; residue or oil on your skin can harm amphibians; all amphibians secrete toxins, do not allow amphibian's secretions to contact eyes, mouth, or open wounds.

### **Shopping list for needed supplies:**

- ☐ appropriately sized habitat
- ☐ book about salamanders and newts
- ☐ commercial salamander or newt food
- ☐ substrate
- ☐ moss
- ☐ water dish
- ☐ hideaway place
- ☐ climbing décor
- ☐ plants
- ☐ under tank heater
- ☐ UVB lighting
- ☐ vitamin supplement
- ☐ calcium supplement
- ☐ cricket keeper
- ☐ cricket food
- ☐ vitamin supplement
- ☐ thermometer
- ☐ humidity gauge