

Crested Gecko

The crested gecko is a nocturnal, arboreal lizard that makes a great companion. They come in many colourations (morphs) and are best recognised for their big eyes and eyelashes. Males cannot be kept together as they are aggressive to one another but females can be housed together. If keeping males and females together, it is best to have minimal 2 females to 1 male.



Glossary

Reptile – A cold-blooded vertebrate with scaly skin.

Amphibian – A cold-blooded vertebrate that begins life as an aquatic animal and grows into a terrestrial adult with lungs.

Terrestrial – A ground dwelling animal.

Arboreal – An animal that lives in trees.

Diurnal – Awake in the day.

Nocturnal – Awake during the night.

UVB – Ultraviolet radiation.

Colubrid – A family of snakes.

Hybrid – Offspring from animals of different species.

Morph – Colourations created due to genetics.

Musk – Unpleasant odour released when an animal is stressed or feels threatened.

Live plants are only available on special order

If you require any further information, please ask our pet care advisors who will be very happy to help.

Opening Times

Monday – Saturday: 9am – 6pm

Sunday: 9.30am – 4pm

Chessington Garden Centre

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Crested Gecko



Care & Advice Sheet

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Size & Housing

Crested geckos usually reach up to 8 inches in length including tail. Glass terrariums are recommended as they maintain humidity well. They have special sticky toes which allow them to climb and stick to the glass. Young geckos should be kept in smaller terrariums as they may struggle to find their food.

45 x 45 x 45cm / 18 x 18 x 18" – Minimum for 1 Adult

45 x 45 x 60cm / 18 x 18 x 24" – Minimum for 2 Adults



Substrate & Furnishings

Substrates that maintain high humidity are recommended such as humus bricks or coco fibre. Orchid bark or rainforest barks are also suitable and can be mixed with soil based substrates. Live or artificial plants should be used with plenty of rocks, logs, bark and branches creating high climbing areas. These geckos will sleep on and behind large plants so they benefit from lots of foliage. Spot pick the enclosure daily and full clean once or twice a month using a reptile specific disinfectant.

Please Note – Not all live plants are reptile friendly.

Lighting & Temperature

Provide UVB (up to 12%) to create a daytime cycle of 10-12 hours a day. Although nocturnal they do benefit from this added light. Lighting is best controlled by a timer. They are most comfortable with a hot spot up to 30°C – this is best achieved by using a heat bulb or ceramic heat emitter with a guard, controlled by a thermostat at all times. There should be a temperature gradient in the enclosure and at night the temperature can drop to minimal 21°C.

Food & Water

Crested geckos are fruit eating geckos. The easiest option is the powdered crested gecko diet (Repashy) that has been specially formulated to maintain all the vital nutrients that crested geckos need. This is acceptable but live food on occasion will help to maintain maximum health such as:

- Locusts
- Waxworms (treat)
- Crickets

Insects should be gut loaded before feeding and dusted with a calcium supplement 3 times a week and multivitamins (Nutrobal) once a week.

Fresh water should be offered daily. The enclosure should be misted 1-2 times a day to keep the humidity between 55-65%. The substrate should never be soggy but nearly dry before the next misting.

Handling

Young geckos are very jumpy and must be handled little and often to tame them. Allow them to jump from hand to hand in a walking motion to slow them down. If the gecko feels frightened, it may drop its tail. This will not grow back.