

## Gray Tree Frog

The gray tree frog is a nocturnal amphibian. These frogs are mainly grey in colouration. They are from areas around eastern North America and are commonly seen in the wild.

There are two different species of gray tree frog (*Hyla chrysoscelis* and *Hyla versicolor*) that are cared for exactly the same and look identical. The only way to tell the different species apart is by listening to their call.



## 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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# Gray Tree Frog



## Care & Advice Sheet

Inspiration for your Home & Garden



## Size & Housing

These frogs are medium sized amphibians. They usually reach around 2 inches in length when adults. These frogs are arboreal and benefit from a taller enclosure. Standard aquariums with screen covered tops can be used but we recommend the Exo Terra or Komodo reptile tanks:

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

The simplest option for substrate is paper towels as this is easily replaced and inexpensive. For a more natural looking enclosure, soil based substrates such as humus bricks can be used and topped with a layer of moist sphagnum moss or similar. This will help maintain humidity.

Perches such as branches and artificial or live plants should be provided. Spot pick the enclosure daily and once or twice a month full clean the enclosure as amphibians are prone to illness from excess waste in the environment.

**Please Note – Not all live plants are amphibian friendly.**

## Lighting & Temperature

A day and night cycle should be provided by the use of reptile UVB bulbs. A low percentage UVB is ideal such as the 5 or 10% arcadia tubes to provide sunlight and this is best placed on a timer for 10-12 hours a day.

Temperatures should range between 20°C and 26°C, achieve this by using a reptile heat bulb, ceramic heat emitter with a guard controlled by a thermostat at all times. The temperature can drop at night by a few degrees; these frogs can tolerate down to 10°C but it is best to keep the temperature above that. If the temperature drops more, a moonlight heat bulb

is recommended to heat the enclosure instead as this emits very little light and can stay on during the night.

## Food & Water

These frogs are insectivores and feed solely on live food. Depending on the size of your frog, live food options include:

- Crickets
- Silkworms
- Moths
- Locusts
- Flies
- Waxworms (treat)

Feed adult frogs every 2-3 days and feed juveniles daily. Fresh water should be provided daily in a large dish as they will soak and often defecate in the bowl. They should be misted daily to provide humidity levels of 50-60%.

## Handling

Gray tree frogs are good beginner amphibians to keep. They are not the best for constant handling as they are small and delicate but can tolerate minimal handling. It is best to wet your hands from the water within their enclosure before handling the frog. Always support the body and do not forcefully grab your frog.