

Leopard Gecko

The leopard gecko is a brilliant beginner reptile. They are available in many different colourations (morphs) thanks to captive breeding. In the wild they are found in the deserts of Asia, Pakistan and some parts of Northern India. Males cannot be kept together as they are aggressive to one another. Females can be housed together however, it is not guaranteed that they will get along. They are nocturnal and naturally solitary animals.



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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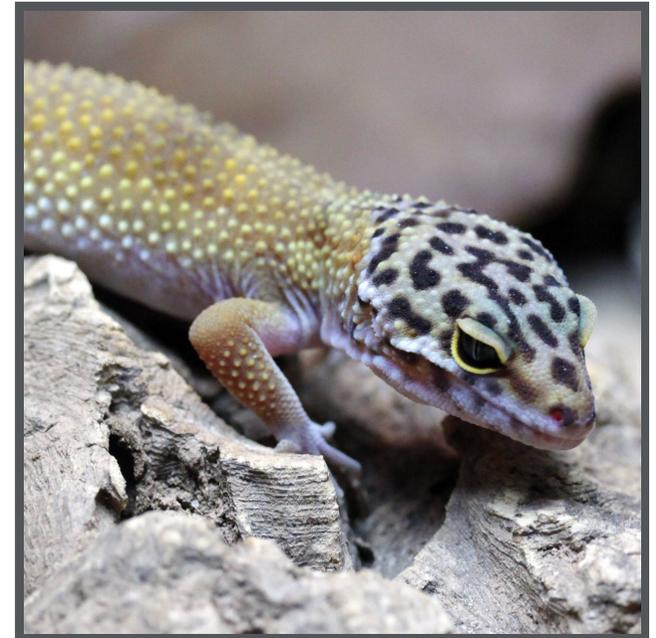
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Leopard Gecko



Care & Advice Sheet

Inspiration for your Home & Garden



Size & Housing

Females usually reach between 7-8 inches and males up to 8-10 inches. These geckos are best housed in wooden vivariums because they retain heat well although glass terrariums can also be used. We recommend:

60 x 45 x 45cm / 24 x 18 x 18" – Minimum for 1 Adult

90 x 45 x 45cm / 36 x 18 x 18" – Minimum for 2 Adults



Substrate & Furnishings

Young geckos should be kept on reptile carpet, kitchen towel or newspaper as they are prone to impaction. Adults can live on loose substrate such as reptile sands. Live or artificial plants should be used with plenty of rocks, logs, bark and branches. They are ground dwelling geckos but will climb if given the chance. 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.

A minimum of three hides should be provided – one in the hot end, one in the cold end and a humid hide full of damp moss.

Lighting & Temperature

Although nocturnal, leopard geckos may bask under UVB at times. Provide UVB at 2 or 5% to create a daytime cycle of 10-12 hours a day. This is best controlled by a timer. They need a basking area with a temperature around 29°C – this is best achieved by using a heat bulb with a guard, controlled by a thermostat at all times. Heat mats can be used but struggle to maintain the levels of heat in colder months. There should be a temperature gradient in the enclosure varying by a few degrees.

Food & Water

Leopard geckos are insectivores and should be a fed a variety of appropriate sized insects such as:

- Locusts
- Mealworms
- Crickets
- Waxworms (treat)

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 humid hide should be misted to keep it damp.

Handling

Leopard geckos are great for handling. Young geckos will be quick and should be handled little and often to get them used to you. Once used to you, they can handled for longer periods of times and make great companions.