

Painted Dragon

Painted dragons are a less known alternative to bearded dragons. When young, these lizards are very active and require lots of attention. They are native to areas in southern Israel and Jordan, northern Saudi Arabia, Sinai, Egypt and some areas of Europe. Males cannot be housed together as they will be aggressive towards each other.



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

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Painted Dragon



Care & Advice Sheet

Inspiration for your Home & Garden



Size & Housing

Most painted dragons reach around 30cm in length.

They need plenty of space to run around in and are best suited in long, wooden vivariums as they are a terrestrial species.

115 x 37.5 x 42cm / 45 x 15 x 16.5" – Minimum for 1 Adult

115 x 49 x 56cm / 45.3 x 19 x 22" – Minimum for 2 Adults



Handling

Younger dragons should be handled little and often as they are very energetic and likely to try and run off. Adults are slower and happier to sit with their owner for a longer period of time. Always support the body and tail. If they feel threatened, they will puff out their beards.

Substrate & Furnishings

For young painted dragons it is best to use reptile carpet, kitchen towel or newspaper due to the risk of impaction. Adult painted dragons can be housed on loose substrates such as reptile sand, beech chips, corncob granules or desert bedding that is deep enough to burrow in. Although ground dwelling lizards, they will appreciate ledges, branches and high areas to bask on. The enclosure should be designed semi desert. Spot pick the enclosure daily and full clean once or twice a month using a reptile specific disinfectant.

Lighting & Temperature

Provide essential UVB (12% or 14% arcadia tubes) to create a daytime cycle of 10-12 hours a day. This is best controlled by a timer. They require a basking area with a temperature around 36-38°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 across the enclosure with a cool end dropping by a few degrees. Night time temperatures can drop to 18°C.

Food & Water

These lizards are omnivores and should be fed a variety of appropriate sized insects such as:

- Crickets
- Mealworms
- Roaches
- Locusts
- 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.

Younger dragons require more live food but older dragons require more salad than live food.

Fresh water should be offered daily however, it is unlikely to see them drink as most of their water comes from their greens. Not all painted dragons are fond of plant matter. Suitable salad options include:

- Dark leafy greens
- Watercress
- Kale
- Rocket
- Mixed peppers