

Panther Chameleon

There are many different types of panther chameleons. They are considered one of the most colourful species of chameleon and are native to Madagascar. The type of panther will determine the colouration. They do change their colours, however, it is not to suit their surroundings but depending on their mood. Darker shades mean they are unhappy and lighter shades mean they are happy and comfortable. Chameleons are best housed alone as they can become easily stressed.

Please Note - Females will still lay eggs without a male present and can become gravid without a nesting area. This can end up in the death of the female.



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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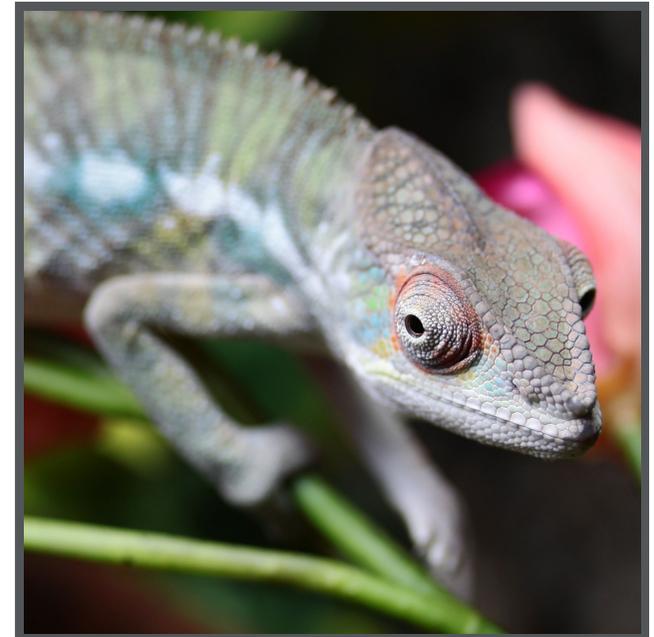
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Panther Chameleon



Care & Advice Sheet

Inspiration for your Home & Garden

Size & Housing

Adult male panthers reach a body length of 12 to 18 inches. Females are slightly smaller and are more likely to reach between 10 to 14 inches in length. They are arboreal lizards and require large, tall enclosures made out of wood, glass or special mesh. Specially designed front opening reptile tanks are recommended such as the Exo Terra or Komodo:

45 x 90 x 45cm / 18 x 36 x 18" – Minimum for 1 Adult

Other designs that allow for excellent ventilation are the reptibreeze mesh enclosures. These come in a variety of sizes but can struggle to maintain the correct temperature if the general area is not warm.



Substrate & Furnishings

Newspaper and kitchen towel can be used as they are easy to replace. For a more natural enclosure and to aid humidity, options include humus bricks, coco fibre, rainforest bark or cypress mulch. Plenty of branches, cork bark and live or artificial plants should be provided to create climbing and hiding places. 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 essential UVB (5, 10 or 12%) to create a daytime cycle of 10-12 hours a day. This will also help bring out the colours of your chameleon. This is best controlled by a timer. They are most comfortable with an ambient temperature around 24-30°C and a basking hot spot of 38°C. This can be achieved by using a heat bulb or a ceramic heat emitter with a guard controlled by a thermostat at all times. At night the temperature can drop a few degrees.

Food & Water

Chameleons mainly eat live food such as:

- Locusts
- Crickets
- Roaches
- Mealworms
- Waxworms (treat)

Insects should be gut loaded before feeding. Dust the insects with a calcium supplement 3 times a week and once a week with a multivitamin (Nutrobal).

Fresh water should be offered daily. The enclosure should be misted 2-3 times a day for them to drink from and they need humidity between 60-70%.

Handling

These chameleons are great for handling. They are considered one of the most docile types of chameleon. Young ones may be stressed but should calm down within a minute or two when handling. Hand feeding is recommended so they get used to you but they should become confident with handling over time. As much as they love to come out of their enclosure, it is still best to avoid having them out for long periods of time every day.