

Yemen Chameleon

Yemen chameleons are a large species of chameleon. Providing the setup is correct, they are easy reptiles to care for. They do change their colour however; it is not to match their surroundings. They are green in colouration with some yellow and blues and the colours change depending on their mood. Darker shades mean they are unhappy and brighter shades mean they are happy and comfortable. They are best kept solitary unless used for breeding purposes. Groups can only have one male and will require a very large enclosure. Other names include the veiled chameleon.



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

Leatherhead Road, Chessington, Surrey, KT9 2NG

Tel: 01372 725 638

Email: info@chessingtongardencentre.co.uk

Web: www.chessingtongardencentre.co.uk



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Yemen Chameleon



Care & Advice Sheet

Inspiration for your Home & Garden



Size & Housing

Adult yemen chameleons grow to a total length of around 50cm. They are arboreal lizards and require large, tall enclosures made out of glass or wood. Specially designed front opening reptile tanks are recommended such as the Exo Terra or Komodo:

60 x 90 x 60cm / 24 x 36 x 24" – 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 24-32°C and a basking hot spot of 32-35°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 between 19-24°C.

Food & Water

Yemen chameleons should eat a mixture of live food and salad such as:

- Locusts
- Crickets
- Roaches
- Grated carrot
- Mealworms
- Waxworms (treat)
- Rocket

Many do not realise but the salad is needed in their diet and helps to enhance their colours. 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 at least 2-3 times a day for them to drink from as they need a low to medium humidity.

Handling

These chameleons are great for handling. Young chameleons 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.