



General Snake Care Information

Always do additional research on the specific pet snake you decide to take home, as tank size, ideal temperature, diet and personality may vary.

Housing:

- Unlike enclosures for many other reptiles and animals, a bigger sized tank may not always be better. Small snakes tend to become anxious when faced with a home too big.
- Always make sure to choose what type of snake you want before setting up your terrarium, it is most ideal to have all of your equipment set up before you bring your snake home.
- Keep in mind if your snake is arboreal or ground dwelling. Generally speaking arboreal snakes need a taller enclosure with lots of room to climb, as ground dwelling snakes need shorter and wider terrariums.
- Snakes are notorious for being able to push their terrarium lids open, so make sure your lid is secured.

Heat and lighting:

- All snakes will require a basking light or a heat mat under their hide to create a temperature variant in the tank. Always make sure your Heat Mat is outside of the tank and is hooked up to a thermostat to ensure the temperature emitting from it is controlled to avoid burning your snake.
- You must have an assortment of thermometers and hydrometers to ensure temperatures and humidity are correct for your specific snake variation. Monitoring your temperatures is extremely important for the health of your pet.
- Not all snakes need a UVB light in their tank, but many do. Some snakes do well with just 30 minutes of unfiltered sunlight a day. Always do your own research.

Substrate:

Substrate will vary with the preference and type of snake you decide on, although newspaper is a common, clean and affordable option to line the tank with. There are many different substrate options, such as gravel, rocks, tile, sand, and mulch. For advanced reptile keepers, look into bioactive setups for a fun twist and to mimic your snake's natural environment. Always do your own research before attempting any loose substrates.

Animal House

Hides and Decor:

- All snakes will need at least one hide big enough to rest and relax underneath.
- Snakes should have a variety of branches and objects to climb within their tank to provide enrichment.

Handling:

- A lot of snakes learn to tolerate being handled, but always make sure your snake has had at least 4 meals in its new home to ensure that your snake is well adjusted to its new environment before you attempt handling.
- Make sure when you handle your snake that there are no bumps in its stomach from its previous meal to ensure it's a comfortable experience.

Diet:

- All snakes are carnivores and eat their prey whole, while some types of small snakes may eat large insects, a majority of snakes eat rats and mice. Some snakes may accept dead prey. Dead mice and rats of various sizes can be purchased frozen from many local pet shops. Many of the same stores may also carry live prey if your snake doesn't enjoy still prey.
- Aim to get prey that is the same width as the middle of your snake. Any larger needs to be supervised when eaten.

****PLEASE ALWAYS DO YOUR OWN RESEARCH AS WELL.**