

Bearded Dragons

Great first reptile!



Basic Information

Lifespan: 10 years

Temperament: Docile (Easy to Handle)

Adult Size: 1.5 feet in length (Medium)

Experience Level: Beginner

Why Bearded Dragons?

Bearded Dragons, one of the most popular lizard pets, are great for new owners that want an awesome looking reptile that they can interact with. Their spikes and claws may make them seem like fierce dinosaurs, but really they are just reptile puppy dogs: begging for attention and, of course, food!

Here are the basics to keeping your Bearded Dragon **happy** and **healthy**!

Housing

Bearded Dragons are territorial lizards, and should be kept by themselves in a 40 gallon, screen lidded enclosure as an adult. Cover the floor of the enclosure with paper towel, which is safe for the lizard and easily removed and replaced for cleaning. Bearded Dragons are desert animals, so provide your lizard with decorative plants, rocks, and wood to climb on (and wear their claws on), as well as a hiding spot or two, like a cave or bark tunnel.

Beardies thrive in hot, dry climates and require both heat and UVB. Put a heat lamp at one end of the enclosure, so they can choose to bask under it at 90-100 F.

Feeding

Bearded Dragons should have a varied diet. Live insects dusted lightly with calcium or vegetables like kale and romaine lettuce work well. Pellet food can be used to supplement the meals of picky eaters, but insects and greens are the best option.

Handling

Bearded Dragons are generally docile and tame. They rarely bite and enjoy just sitting around on your lap or shoulder. Young dragons can be skittish, but with growth and size, they will become accustomed to handling. Remember to wash your hands after handling your lizard.

Queen City Cresteds

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