



TOKAY GECKO

# CARE GUIDE

*THE NEW BEGINNING WAY*



# Tokay Gecko Care Guide

The Tokay Gecko (*Gekko gecko*) is a striking reptile known for its vibrant colors and unique vocalizations. These nocturnal creatures require specific care to thrive in captivity. This guide will help you provide the best environment for a Tokay Gecko.

## Habitat Setup

### Enclosure

- **Size:** A single adult Tokay Gecko requires a 20-gallon vertical tank at a minimum. An enclosure that is tall rather than wide is ideal as these geckos are arboreal and enjoy climbing.
- **Material:** Glass enclosures are recommended for maintaining humidity and providing a clear view.
- **Ventilation:** Ensure proper ventilation to prevent mold and mildew.

### Substrate

- **Options:** Use substrates that retain moisture, such as coconut fiber, peat moss, or orchid bark. Avoid substrates that can cause impaction, like sand.
- **Depth:** Provide a substrate depth of about 2-3 inches to help maintain humidity.

### Decorations

- **Climbing Structures:** Include branches, cork bark, and vines to mimic their natural environment.
- **Hiding Spots:** Use plants or hide boxes to offer secure spots, as Tokay Geckos are shy and need places to retreat.

## Temperature and Humidity

### Temperature

- **Daytime:** Maintain a temperature range of 80-85°F (27-29°C).
- **Nighttime:** Allow a slight drop to 70-75°F (21-24°C).
- **Heating:** Use an under-tank heater or a ceramic heat emitter to provide a gentle heat source. Always monitor with a thermometer.

### Humidity

- **Level:** Keep humidity between 60-80%.
- **Maintenance:** Mist the enclosure daily and provide a shallow water dish. Use a hygrometer to monitor humidity levels.

## Lighting

- **UVB Lighting:** While Tokay Geckos are nocturnal, providing low-level UVB lighting can be beneficial for their health. Ensure the light is on a 12-hour cycle.
- **Day/Night Cycle:** Maintain a consistent day/night cycle to mimic natural conditions.

## Diet and Feeding

### Diet

- **Insects:** The primary diet should consist of live insects such as crickets, mealworms, and roaches.
- **Supplements:** Dust insects with a calcium and vitamin D3 supplement 2-3 times a week.

### Feeding Schedule

- **Young Geckos:** Feed daily.
- **Adults:** Feed 2-3 times per week.
- **Observation:** Remove uneaten food to prevent spoilage and pest attraction.

## Health and Handling

### Health

- **Signs of Illness:** Watch for signs such as lethargy, lack of appetite, or abnormal droppings. Consult a reptile veterinarian if you suspect health issues.
- **Shedding:** Ensure proper humidity to aid in shedding. Provide rough surfaces to help your gecko shed completely.

### Handling

- **Approach:** Tokay Geckos can be aggressive and should be handled with care. They are best observed rather than handled frequently.
- **Stress Reduction:** Limit handling to avoid stress and potential bites.

## Conclusion

Caring for a Tokay Gecko requires attention to their specific environmental and dietary needs. By maintaining an appropriate habitat, providing a balanced diet, and monitoring their health, you can ensure your Tokay Gecko thrives in captivity. Remember, patience and observation are key when caring for these fascinating creatures.

