

Caging Basics

Crested Geckos can be kept in a number of different types of enclosures. Customized Sterilite tubs, specialized glass aquariums like Exo Terra, or simple aquariums turned verticle can all be good homes for your gecko. Keep in mind: Hatchlings to four month old crested geckos can be housed in 5-10 gallon aquariums or similar plastic keepers. In some cases, young geckos housed in large cages will not eat well. Juvenile to adult crested geckos should be housed in a 20 gallon tall aquarium or larger. Three adult cresteds can be comfortably housed in a 29 gallon aquarium. Screen Cages can also be used but may require more misting. Height is more desirable than length or width, particularly with adult geckos.



Diet

We recommend a varied diet of either Big Fat Geckos Smoothie Mix, Pangea Fruit Mix Complete Gecko Diet (we use Banana/Papaya), Repashy Crested Gecko diet MRP, and/or Clark's Gecko Diet and domestic crickets/roaches dusted with calcium (without D3). Feeder insects must be sized properly so the gecko does not choke. The insect must be small enough that it will fit between the gecko's eyes (and so down its throat). Insects should be purchased captive bred from a reliable feeder source to minimize the possibility of parasites and other issues. Spiders and other venomous insects are not appropriate prey for the gecko.



Red Sky Geckos Care Sheet



Red Sky Geckos

Atlanta GA.

www.redskygeckos.com

Nocturnal Geckos

New Caledonian Geckos
Crested, Gargoyle, Chahoua,
and Leachianus Geckos

Handling Your Gecko

Crested Geckos are among the most handle-able of all lizards. They tolerate moderate to heavy handling even when they are relatively young, however you should not handle geckos that are less than two weeks old, or geckos that have recently been purchased or moved. There is a recommended two-week acclimation period for newly acquired geckos. Once they are settled in, try five minutes of handling per day for the first few weeks. Once they are comfortable with you, you can begin to handle them more. We recommend no more than 20 minutes of handling per day.



New Caledonian Geckos
prefer temps between 65-78
degrees F.

Never leave in a car.



CAUTIONS

DEATH DUE TO HEAT EXHAUSTION IS COMMON AND PREVENTABLE. Please do not leave your gecko in a car, in a sunny window without shade, under strong heat lamps or in any temperature above 85 degrees that the gecko cannot escape.

GECKO TAILS ARE NOT GUARANTEED TO STAY ON. Sometimes geckos will drop their tails due to stress. This has no affect on them health-wise nor does it affect their breeding ability

AVOID: geckos jumping from greater than 5 feet in the air and/or landing on a surface that is sharp or hard, cat/dog attacks, children rough-housing with the gecko, burns, getting caught in an enclosure door, choking on feeder insects, tail loss, over heating, or injuries sustained from cage-mates.

HUMIDITY

Mist the gecko's enclosure on a daily basis or if you have a humidity gauge (recommended) then keep a humidity level of 95% once a day dropping to around 30-40% for the majority of the day. Without moisture the gecko will dehydrate and die. Conversely, too much moisture can create skin problems so misting once a day is usually adequate except in the driest part of winter. A shallow water dish that the gecko cannot drown in can be left in the enclosure to help keep the humidity level up. Let the cage dry out if you notice that mold is starting or that the cage is still wet when you check before the second misting.

TEMPERATURE

Temperatures for crested geckos should be maintained between 72 and 80 degrees for most of the year. At temperatures of 85 degrees or warmer, crested geckos will become stressed, which could lead to illness or death. Cresteds can tolerate night time temperature drops down into the mid 60's but it is not necessary to provide this type of night time drop.

12 to 14 hours of light is appropriate for most of the year, with ten hours of light during winter. UVB is not required but can be used for nocturnal geckos. Basking areas should be kept on the cool side-under 85 degrees and geckos should be able to escape to a 70 degree area. A simple fluorescent bulb can also be used for this.