

shopping list for needed supplies

- appropriately sized habitat
- book about arid lizards
- commercial food
- treats
- substrate
- moss
- food and water dishes
- mealworm dish
- hideaway place
- climbing décor
- plants
- heat light
- heat fixture
- under tank heater
- UVB lighting
- vitamin supplement
- calcium supplement
- cricket keeper
- cricket food
- thermometer
- humidity gauge

sources

Ask an associate about Petco's selection of books on Arid Lizards and the variety of Petco Brand products available for the care and happiness of your new pet. All Petco Brand products carry a 100% money-back guarantee.

Because all Lizards are potential carriers of infectious diseases, such as Salmonella, always wash your hands before and after handling your lizard and/or habitat contents to help prevent the potential spread of diseases.

Pregnant women, children under the age of 5 and people with weakened immune systems should contact their physician before purchasing and/or caring for a Lizard and should consider not having a Lizard as a pet. Go to the Centers for Disease Control at cdc.gov/healthypets/ for more information about Lizards and disease. Go to petco.com/caresheet to download other helpful Care Sheets.

This care sheet can cover the needs of other species. See petco.com for more information.

Arid Lizard

includes bearded dragon, steppe runner curly-tailed, frilled lizard, armadillo, african plated, agama and uromastix lizards



Care Sheet

Arid Lizards consists of several species originating from dry, hot environments.

Arid Lizard facts:

- average adult size: 4 to 36 inches long, depending on species
- average life span: 15+ years with proper care
- diet: herbivore and omnivore, depending on species

Will reach adult size in 1-3 years, depending on species and under ideal conditions; upgrade habitat size as your reptile grows.

Note: The information in this Care Sheet is not a substitute for veterinary care. If you need additional information, please refer to the sources on the following page or contact your veterinarian as appropriate.

Care Sheet

Arid Lizard

includes bearded dragon, curly-tailed, frilled lizard, armadillo, african plated, agama and uromastyx lizards



Developed with and approved by a qualified veterinarian.

diet

A well-balanced Arid Lizard diet consists of:

- Depending on species, may require a mix of 30% veggies and 70% gut-loaded (recently fed) insects such as crickets, mealworms and waxworms.
- Some species may be herbivores which only eat vegetables and fruits; others may require frozen, thawed mice.

feeding

Things to remember when feeding your Lizard:

- Fresh, clean, chlorine-free water should be available at all times; may not drink from a bowl but relies on moisture on decor.
- Feed juveniles daily and adults 3-5 times per week.
- Sprinkle food with calcium supplement daily and a multi-vitamin supplement once or twice a week.

- Vegetables and fruits not eaten within 24 hours should be discarded.

housing

- Size - appropriate size and shape habitat for an adult Lizard to accommodate normal behaviors and exercise. Due to the varied sizes and growth rates of arid Lizards, and their individualized needs, we recommend you consult a book on the species to determine its specific housing requirements.
- Habitat - provide a hiding area; branches for basking. Use an under tank heater at one end of the tank. Maintain less than 50% humidity by misting as needed.
- Substrate - calcium based sand is recommended; silica based sand (playground sand) may be ingested and cause impaction; repti-carpet is also recommended as an alternative substrate.
- Temperature - temperature gradient

(95-100°F for the warm end and 70-75°F for the cool end); recommend radiant heat. Use an incandescent light or ceramic heater as primary heat source.

- Lighting - UVB rays with full spectrum lighting for 10-12 hours a day is required. An incandescent day bulb can be used for basking area during daylight hours only; can use a ceramic heater or black heat bulb at all hours.
- House adult Arid Lizards separately and do **not** house different reptile species together.

normal behavior

- All Arid Lizards will spend part of the day in a hiding spot in their habitat.
- Male Arid Lizards are territorial and should be housed separately.

habitat maintenance

Thoroughly clean the habitat at least once a week: place Lizard in a

secure habitat; scrub the tank and furnishings with a 3% bleach solution; rinse thoroughly with water, removing all traces of bleach smell; dry the tank and furnishings completely and add clean substrate.

grooming & hygiene

Arid Lizards regularly shed their skin; ensure humidity of habitat is at appropriate level to allow proper shedding. To facilitate shedding, bathe in a large container that allows the Lizard to immerse its entire body or provide a shed box, which is essentially a hide box with sphagnum moss, that will aid in the shedding process.

signs of a healthy animal

- Active, alert, and interested in humans
- Clear eyes
- Body and tail are rounded, filled out
- Healthy skin
- Clear nose and vent
- Eats regularly

red flags

- weight loss or decreased appetite
- mucus in mouth or nose
- swelling
- lethargy
- bumps, sores, or abrasions on skin
- labored breathing
- paralysis of limbs or tail
- abnormal feces

If you notice any of these signs, please contact your exotic animal veterinarian.

common health issues

Health Issue	Symptoms or Causes	Suggested Action
Gastro-intestinal disease	Runny stools, caked or smeared stool around the vent area, and loss of appetite caused by bacterial or parasitic infection.	Consult your exotic animal veterinarian.
Metabolic bone/vitamin deficiency	Inability to absorb calcium due to insufficient UVB light. If untreated, can lead to a disorder characterized by deformities and softened bones. Swollen limbs and lethargy.	Consult your exotic animal veterinarian and provide ample UVB lighting.
Respiratory disease	Labored breathing and mucus in the mouth or nose. Can be caused by a habitat that is too cold or damp.	Consult your exotic animal veterinarian and ensure habitat is appropriately warm.