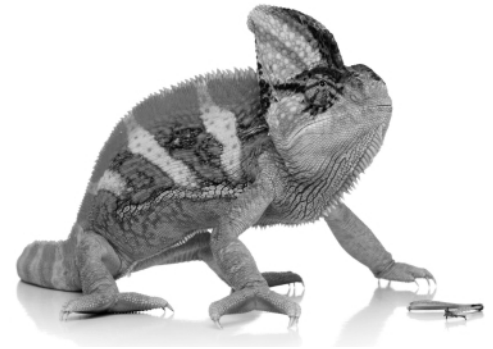


VEILED CHAMELEON

- Veiled Chameleons have the ability to change color based on their emotional state or color of the foliage around them.
- Size ranges from 8"-19" depending on gender with males usually growing larger than females. Males have a larger body and head crest than females, and a heel spur is present on males.
- They are omnivores and eat both plants and insects.
- Very hardy, tolerant of a wide range of temperatures, and easy to care for and breed.



Diet

A chameleon's diet should be made mostly of "gutloaded" crickets and mealworms which have been dusted with a vitamin supplement. Chameleons are omnivorous so offer different types of fruits, vegetables, and plants in a small feeding dish every day. Some examples of appropriate foods other than crickets include superworms, silk worms, pinky mice, collard, turnip, and dandelion greens, carrots, squash, sweet potatoes, corn, hibiscus flowers, and fruits. Buy appropriately sized insects to feed and cut vegetables, fruits, and plants into bite-size pieces for your chameleon; food items that are too large can harm them.

Housing

Veiled Chameleons are aggressive toward one another as adults and it is recommended to always keep them separate. They may be housed together as juveniles, and sometimes a female/female combination can be housed together if the cage is large enough.

These lizards grow to be relatively large, so buy the largest cage your budget can handle. A 75 gallon tank with a screen top would be the ideal size for an adult veiled chameleon. The enclosure should be decorated with a variety of plants, vines, driftwood, rocks, and other types of decorations. Substrate can be any type of soil or bark bedding.

Mist the enclosure daily; the humidity range should be between 60 and 70%. Full-spectrum UVB lighting and a heat lamp are required to keep your chameleon happy and healthy. Ambient air temperature should be in the 80s with a basking temperature between 90 and 100 degrees.

Handling & Care

Fresh water and food should be provided daily. Any uneaten fresh fruits, vegetables, or plants need to be removed within 24 hours of being offered to avoid having your chameleon eat any spoiled foods. Chameleons need to be misted daily because they typically will not drink from a water dish but instead will drink water droplets from plant leaves and decorations after being misted.

Chameleons can suffer from respiratory ailments from inadequate ventilation, excessively wet or soiled substrate and decorations, or constant cool temperatures. Regular cage cleaning is needed and includes wiping the entire cage clean and replacing old dirty bedding with fresh at least once a month.

Metabolic Bone Disease is common in captive reptiles but is easily prevented by dusting foods with a calcium supplement at least once a week. UVB lighting and vitamin D3 should be provided to ensure proper absorption of calcium.

Wash your hands with anti-bacterial soap after handling any animal.

VEILED CHAMELEON CHECKLIST

- Terrarium
- Feeding Dish
- Décor
- Crickets/Mealworms
- Calcium Supplement
- Vitamin D3 Supplement
- UVB Lighting
- Heat Source
- Substrate
- Thermometer
- Hygrometer
- Small Transport Carrier
- Veiled Chameleon Book