

BLUE TONGUE SKINK



4-10 years



14 inches



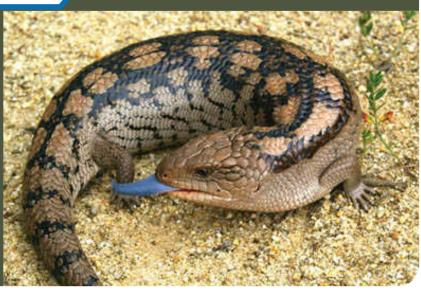
Intermediate



70-100° F



Insects, Worms, Fruit & Vegetables



Blue tongue skinks can be quite friendly and are a good first lizard choice. Although they can be a bit cage aggressive at first, they tolerate quite a lot of handling once out of their cage. Start slow with your new pet, and gradually increase the amount of time you handle it. It won't be long before your blue tongue gets used to you, and wants to be held often.

These guidelines are the basic necessities for your new pet. Please do your research and consult your veterinarian for further guidance.

TANK SET UP

Blue tongue skinks must have a well-ventilated home, with space to roam and a hiding area. They are not good climbers, so keep your logs, hides, and accessories low. A 20 gallon long glass tank with a screen top for juveniles, and a 40 gallon breeder tank for larger skinks are recommended.

BEDDING

Blue tongue skinks do well on Forest Floor/Eco Earth mixture or the Reptibark. You may use reptile carpet, but mimicking the "ground" is the best way to set up their tank.

TEMPERATURE

Blue tongue skinks need 90 – 100°F on the hot side, and 75-85°F on the cool side. Night time temperatures may drop below 70°F as long as the skink has an under tank heat pad to lay on if he is too cool. The Reptitherm under tank heater (suitable for the tank size) is placed underneath the outside of the tank.

LIGHTING

Blue tongue skinks need UVA and UVB, full spectrum lighting. A 75-100 watt basking bulb and a 5.0 UVB, OR a PowerSun bulb located next to each other are needed. Place the lighting over the hot side of the tank, with stone below it, to act as a natural heat stone.

HUMIDITY

Blue tongue skinks require low to moderate humidity. A mossy area and a shallow water dish are adequate, as they are not avid swimmers. Soak the skink in a container of shallow lukewarm water once a week to ensure proper hydration.

FEEDING

Blue tongue skinks are omnivorous, and should be fed a combination of protein, vegetables, greens, and fruits. Feed them as much as they will eat in one sitting. Sprinkle calcium with D3 on their food; including the crickets. Try an assortment of foods such as; canned premium puppy food, canned snails, crickets, mealworms, hard boiled eggs, ground turkey, melon, strawberries, and mixed vegetables.

ACCESSORIES

Basking rocks or low platform, greenery, wood hides are all options for your blue tongue skink. Remember to keep the platform or rock hides low, as they are not great climbers.

CLEANING

Clean the inside of the tank with a gentle cleanser. Wash the water and food dishes and spot clean the substrate on a daily basis.