
 Up to 20 years

 9-12 inches

 Intermediate

 75-90° F

 Omnivorous Pellets



Red eared sliders are personable and docile turtles, and are very popular for aquariums and koi ponds. They may swim up to you when prompted and enjoy being hand fed. Since turtles have a tendency to nip, take caution when handling. These guidelines are the basic necessities for your new pet. Please do your research, and consult your veterinarian for further guidance.

TANK SET UP

Red eared sliders need a lot of space, as they are semi-aquatic, meaning they must have land and water. The aquatic side must have ample filtration. A filter system twice the necessary size for the tank is recommended. A 40 - 75 gallon glass aquarium with a screen top will work well, but must have a dry area or turtle dock on one side for basking.

SUBSTRATE

On the water side, you may use aquarium stones or large flat stones. For their dry area, Repti-bark may be used, but must be kept separate from the water, as it will clog your filter.

TEMPERATURE

The water should be between 75 – 80°F. Use a submersible water heater to achieve the desired temperature. For larger tanks, more than one heater may be needed. The basking spot on the dry side of the habitat should stay between 85-90°F.

LIGHTING

Red eared sliders need UVA and UVB full spectrum lighting. Place the lighting over the dry, hot area of the tank, opposite the aquatic side. Red eared sliders love to bask in the sunlight!

FEEDING

Red eared sliders are omnivorous. They will eat small fish, turtle pellets, worms, crickets, and even greens. They are scavengers and will eat most anything offered to them.

HANDLING

Red eared sliders have wonderful personalities and may even come up to you when it's feed time. However, there is always a risk of salmonella with aquatic turtles, and handling is not recommended. DO NOT allow children to handle.

CLEANING

Turtles can carry salmonella in their droppings, which in turn is in their water. Filters must be kept clean and frequent water changes are necessary.