

 5 years

 Up to 2 feet

 Intermediate

 80-95° F

 Insects



The veiled chameleon is one of the largest chameleons in captivity, and makes an excellent choice for a first-time chameleon owner. Males can reach a size of 2 feet at maturity, and females just a little smaller at 18 inches. They are generally docile, but do like their privacy and occasional 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

As with all chameleons, the veiled chameleon should be kept separate from other chameleons. They should have a screen enclosure approximately 2 ft x 2 ft. x 3 ft for adequate ventilation. With the high humidity, a glass enclosure could grow mold and cause an upper respiratory infection. You also do not want to house chameleons in a glass enclosure, as they see their reflection, and become aggressive, causing themselves stress.

#### SUBSTRATE

EcoEarth, or a mixture of EcoEarth and Repti-bark, substrate approximately 2" on the bottom will help hold the humidity level where it needs to be. If substrate is not preferred, you may use Repti-carpet or paper on the bottom of the cage.

#### TEMPERATURE

Veiled chameleons need an ambient temperature of between 75-80° F, with a basking area of 85-90° F. Their night temperature may fall below 70° F, and you should use a red light if temperatures get below 65° F.

#### LIGHTING

Veiled chameleons need full spectrum UVB and UVA lighting. Use a 5.0 UVB bulb, along with a basking bulb, wattage appropriate for the size of the enclosure. The lighting should be within 6" of the highest branch in the habitat, and keep the basking temp between 85-90° F.

#### HUMIDITY

The natural habitat for a veiled chameleon has 50% humidity. If properly hydrated, the chameleon's eyes will be protruded and easily functioning, the skin will be vibrant, and they will have a good shed cycle. Chameleons generally do not drink from standing water in a dish, but will drink water off leaves and branches from a constant dripper system. A Repti-fogger is most likely not needed, but a rain shower once a week, is a necessity.

#### FEEDING

The veiled's staple food is insects, mainly crickets. Dust all insects with Calcium with D3. The feeder insects should be gut-loaded, or supply Repti-vitamins for the chameleon. Feed what the chameleon eats in a day; do not over feed.

#### ACCESSORIES

Veiled chameleons are arboreal, and need many climbing branches, natural and artificial plants, hammocks, and vines. Some safe plants for the veiled are ficus, pothos, and hibiscus. Make sure all plants you place in the enclosure are safe for the chameleon.