



All About the **Chameleon**

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The Chameleon

About the Chameleon

The Chameleon, a descendant of the lizard family, comes in many different species. The most common that many pet owners purchase is the Veiled Chameleon. This complimentary eBook will not only inform you on this interesting reptile, but guide you through the steps of how to properly care for your new Chameleon pet. We hope you enjoy this informative source of Chameleon information to not only have a healthy Chameleon, but a happy Chameleon pet.

Average Length	10-24 inches	Characteristics	Does not like to be handled or touched; asocial
Average Lifespan	5-8 years	Special Needs	Climbing and basking branches
Coloring	Bright colors	Health Concerns	Mouth rot, parasites, dehydration, kidney failure, metabolic bone disease.

Chameleon Characteristics

The Veiled Chameleon is active during the day. They have very long tongues, and are very large and colorful. The Veiled Chameleon has a high tolerance for humid and temperment environments, due to being natives of Yemen and Saudi Arabia.

The Chameleon is asocial and does not like to be handled or touched. Male Chameleons can grow to be between 17 to 24 inches, and the female, 10 to 14 inches. The females lays eggs 20 to 30 days after mating and lays about 35-80 eggs, which will need to be laid in sand. Female Chameleons will need to lay their eggs during mating season, or they will die. Putting Chameleons together is not recommended; there should only be one Chameleon to a cage. Chameleons have a life span of five to eight years.

Selecting Your Chameleon

Before you acquire an exotic animal of any kind, it is important to research and read about its care. As the interest in owning reptiles has increased over the last several years, many books and pamphlets have been produced to help potential new owners discover what species is right for them.

You will always want to make sure the Chameleon you buy is of the captive breed to limit any risk of it having parasites. You will also want to make sure you are not purchasing an imported Chameleon, as they tend to be disease prone. When deciding other options in the purchase of your Chameleon, try to avoid purchasing through mail order. Chameleons can become dehydrated and parasite infested while traveling through the mail. Consider not only the overall look of the chameleon, but also its current living conditions. Some things to look for:

- full and plump bodies
- healthy skin with sleek scales
- bright and clear eyes



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- [Food for Your Chameleon](#)



[Heat Lamp](#)



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Selecting Your Chameleon's Habitat

When selecting your reptile's habitat, it is important to consider several things such as what type and size is appropriate, as well as substrate, temperature, light, furniture, and what type of feeding accommodations are necessary.

Type and Size of Your Chameleon's Habitat

When bringing home your new Chameleon pet, you will want to prepare your home for your new edition. You will need to buy an enclosure that has an opening made of mesh or screen, at least on one side of your Chameleon's cage to provide proper ventilation. Chameleons also are very adapted to their arboreal life, so you will need to provide climbing and basking branches in their cages as well. Inside of your Chameleon's cage, you will need a good reptile thermometer to control temperature for basking and thermoregulation. Live vegetation is also necessary for your Chameleon. A heating lamp for basking, florescent lights for UVB rays and newspaper cut to fit the bottom of the cage are all things needed before you bring your Chameleon pet home.

Chameleons do well with a temperature of 90 to 95 degrees during the day and around 75 degrees at night.

The Chameleon does not require many cage accessories, and a simple arrangement will be easiest to clean and maintain. Chameleons do like to have branches and various places they can cling to while they bask in the heat lamp.

If you have a female chameleon, you will have to have sand for her to lay her eggs in. If a female does not lay her eggs, she will die. Of course, if you only have one chameleon, you don't need to worry about mating problems and the subsequent egg laying.

Habitat Care and Maintenance

Any debris and feces should be removed from the tank on a daily basis. Folded paper towel or newspaper can be placed in the toilet area and removed as soon as it is soiled.

Maintaining a happy and healthy habitat for your Chameleon can be generally easy, as long as you keep up with it. Regularly change your substrate to assure and maintain good health.

Feeding

Chameleons mostly feed off of insects but also enjoy vegetation. Baby chameleons especially enjoy fruit flies. Chameleons may become bored with their current diet and refuse to eat until you provide them with something new. Feeding chameleons can be a bit tricky, but if you monitor how much they consume each day, you shouldn't have many problems. It is always a good idea to acquire a book specifically about chameleons and their feeding habits. As with all animals, constant access to water is a must so the chameleon does not become dehydrated.



You'll need these basics before your Chameleon comes home. Click the items below to go to

- [Tank](#)
- [Tank Lid](#)
- [Thermometer](#)
- [Artificial Rock](#)
- [Basking Platform](#)
- [UVB Bulb](#)
- [Climbing Vine](#)



[Stainless Steel Litter Scooper](#)

The Chameleon Baby

At this stage of your Chameleon's life, starting them out properly will ensure that you keep a happy and healthy Chameleon for the span of their life. Baby Chameleons should be kept warm. Temperatures of 90 to 95 degrees during the day and 75 degrees during the night are good for your baby Chameleon. Because baby Chameleons are fairly small when born, keeping them in an enclosure where they can be seen clearly and watched is important. As they grow they can be moved to a bigger cage. Baby Chameleons favor fruit flies as their source of nutrition.

The Chameleon Adult

As your Chameleon grows, their needs change. You will want to be sure your adult Chameleon has adjusted to their surroundings. Space is essential to the adult Chameleon. Adult Chameleon's diets change as they age; they feed off of insects mostly and will consume green vegetation as well. As an adult male, the Chameleon can become aggressive during the mating season. Keeping the proper lighting, heating and diet for your Chameleon will ensure a healthy Chameleon through the golden years.

The Senior Chameleon

As you go through the years with your Chameleon, you will want to ensure they are comfortable, kept warm, adhering to their diets, and maintaining their light source. At this stage, your senior Chameleon will require feeding at least 2-3 times a day and you may also provide different percentages of food to them as they age. Annual visits to a veterinarian who specializes in reptiles are essential in ensuring that your Chameleon stays healthy for years to come.

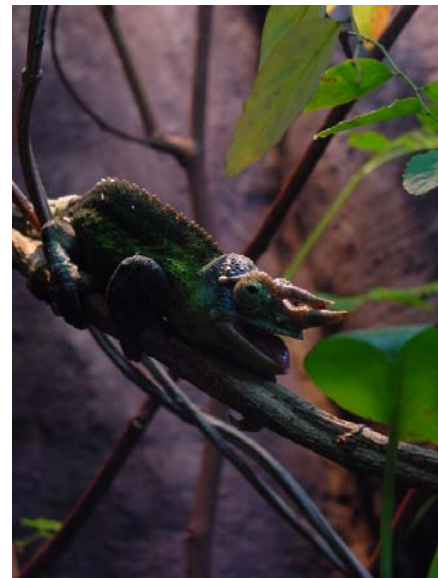
Medical Considerations

Chameleons have some medical conditions you may want to consider. They are prone to parasites, metabolic bone disease, dehydration, kidney failure and stress. Chameleons can go on hunger strikes when they are bored with their diets and will require variety when feeding. You may also want to watch out for anorexia. Keeping an eye out for any signs of illness or distress in your Chameleon is important, and if you find that they are suffering from any of these problems, you will want to contact your veterinarian as soon as possible to avoid any fatal complications.

Necessary Items

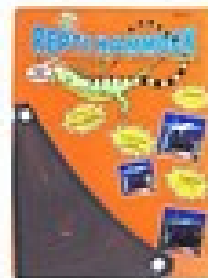
For youngsters, a minimalist decorating scheme will be fine, with one elevated basking area, a hiding area, and paper towels as a substrate. Put the basking area closer to the heat source.

House your chameleon somewhere interesting—for the chameleon. They prefer to be in the thick of things, where they can watch their pet humans display their incomprehensible activities. Do not hide them away in a seldom frequented bedroom. They have immense curiosity!



Can't miss gifts for the Chameleon owner:

- [Pet Lizards Book](#)
- [Snake Travel Carrier](#)
- [Baby Chameleon Containment](#)

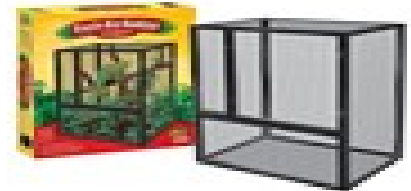


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