

Frilled lizard Care Sheet



PROFILE

Common Name: **Frilled Lizard, Frilled Dragon**

Latin Name: ***Chlamidosaurus kingii***

Native To: **Australia**

Size: **28"-36"**

Life Span: **10 – 15 years**

HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

Environment:

Found throughout Australia and parts of new Guinea.
Inhabiting areas of tropical savannah woodland.

Vivarium Size:

Vivarium sizes for hatchling and juvenile frilled lizards need to be taller than they are wide. The arboreal nature of the lizards will require a lot of climbing and high basking opportunities. 24x24x36" for smaller lizards with an adult enclosure dimensions of 36x24x48" being the minimum.

Substrate:

A good quality, water retaining substrate is essential for these active lizards. Much of their time will be spent clinging to branches off the ground but substrate choice is still important. A dense soil mix such as crestie life, earthpro soil and forest floor are some good options. Mixed with moss and topped with leaf litter will allow for a slow release of moisture which will aid in humidity levels. Large, stout mostly vertical branches along with rocks and slate will create basking spots and climbing opportunities.

Food and Water:

Frilled lizards are omnivores but will very rarely seek out vegetation to feed on. They are far more focused on the meat portion of their diet. Locust, cricket, mealworm, moriworm, roaches and beetle grubs will make up the bulk of the diet. Appropriate sized mice can be added to the diet as a treat. Hand feeding is recommended for these animals but also give them the opportunity to hunt.

To quench your lizards thirst, it is recommended that you spray leaves/branches or the sides of the tank, aswell as the dragon's face. Your new pet will then drink from the droplets, or lick their lips dry.

It is also recommended that you add a water bowl (large enough for the dragon to completely submerge himself in) to the cool side of the vivarium.

Heat/Light Requirements:

Frilled lizards need 24 hour heat and 10 – 12 hours of UV light. One end of the vivarium should be the designated 'hot' end, also known as the 'basking area' and the other should be the 'cool' end. A basking lamp should be fixed at the hot end enabling temperatures up to 38°C and allowing to cool to 27°C at the cool end. This gradient from hot to cold allows the ectothermic frilled lizard to thermoregulate i.e. cool down when too hot and warm up when too cold. This gradient also aids with digestion and, in conjunction with the UV light promotes a more active lifestyle.

At night it is best to allow the temperature to drop to 26°C to simulate the natural nightly temperature drop of the wild and to allow the reptile to shut down and sleep.

Below are the ideal temperatures for your frilled lizard, all of which can be thermostatically controlled:

Day (cool end): 26-28°C

Basking (warm end): 35-40°C

Night: 25-28°C

Please note that this care sheet is only for your basic husbandry knowledge and that it is always recommended that you do further reading.

FURTHER READING

www.reptilecentre.com

Any Problems?

Give us a ring ASAP on 0121 744 1300

Or email us at shirley_reptiles@live.co.uk

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