



# Blue Tailed Skink

*Cryptoblepharus egeriae*

## Care Sheet

**Caging Needed:** A 10-20 gallon aquarium is an adequate habitat for a Blue Tailed Skink. Length is more important than height as these lizards rarely climb. As always, cover your habitat with a screen lid for ventilation. Place branches, leaf litter and other debris in the tank to give him plenty of hiding places to feel safe and to get out of the heat. If you use live plants in the terrarium, put them in pots because you will need to replace the substrate periodically. In their natural habitat, these skinks like to crawl out on rocks to soak up the sun so be sure to include several.

**Substrate:** Reptile safe soil, newspaper, Repti-Bark, or a reptile carpet can be used for the floor of your habitat.

**Temperature & Lighting:** The basking side of the habitat should be at 85-90 degrees. The cool side of the tank should be between 72-80 degrees. An over the tank bulb in a dome light can be used, along with an under the tank heater.

**Diet:** Crickets and small mealworms can be fed every other day. Always remember to gut load your crickets and dust them with a calcium powder to keep your Blue Tailed Skink healthy. Your Skink will stop searching for food and go back into hiding or basking when it is no longer hungry.

**Misc:** The baby skink exhibits a dark black complexion with bright yellow stripes on the back of their necks that runs down to the juncture of the tail. Adults begin losing their yellow stripes with age. The black back turns a brownish color. During mating season, the neck starts growing a reddish color. Females continue to keep their blue tail through their life. Blue Tailed Skinks do not like to be handled, but they make a great observation only pet.

**Average size:** 5-8.5 inches

**Life Span:** 5-7 years

