



Bearded Dragon

Pogona Vitticeps
Care sheet

Caging Needed: Hatchlings can be kept in a 20 gallon aquarium for a few months. Adult bearded dragons will need at least a 50 gallon aquarium to be comfortable, if keeping more than one bearded together. A screen top is needed for ventilation. Branches and rocks are needed for climbing and basking. You can also use a screen enclosure or custom built enclosure.

Bedding & Water needs: Newspaper, paper towels, alfalfa pellets, felt carpets, and vitamin sand can be used as a substrate. Be cautious when using sand, bearded dragons especially hatchlings, may occasionally ingest some and become impacted over time. A bowl of water will need to be placed in the enclosure for drinking and bathing (judge appropriate size).

Temperatures & Humidity: While bearded dragons do not require any humidity they do like it very hot. Your habitat should have a basking temperature between 95-100 degrees, a day time temp for the rest of the tank between 80-85 degrees, and a night time tank temperature between 68-75 degrees. To keep the night time temperature up an infrared bulb can be used.

Lighting: Bearded dragons need a basking side to their enclosure and a cooler side. Incandescent bulbs, ceramic emitters, or heat panes can be used for the basking spot. Full spectrum should be provided using one of the fluorescent bulbs made for reptiles that produce both UVA and UVB wavelengths. A mercury vapor bulb which provides heat and light may also be used. Twelve hours of daylight can be provided through the use of timers.

Diet: Bearded dragons are omnivores. They need both animal and plant material in their diet. Crickets, roaches, mealworms, wax worms, and super worms can be fed to your bearded dragon. Always dust your insects with reptile calcium to keep your bearded healthy. A dish of veggies should be offered to your bearded dragon daily along with the insect of choice. The dish should include: soft carrots, green beans, cucumbers, zucchini, summer squash, green peppers, peas, kale, collard greens, mustard greens (full veggie and greens lists can be found online).

Misc: Males should be housed separately. Females can live happily together if both are relatively the same size and temperament. Always be sure the enclosure you are keeping pairs or groups in is the appropriate size. If the enclosure is too small your bearded dragons will fight.

Average size: 6-24 inches

Life Span: 10-15 years

