# Blue Tongue Lizard Fast Facts!

- ♦ Live for approx. 15-20 years
- ♦ Grow to approx. 40-60cm
- ♦ Requires a minimum 90x45x60cm enclosure
- Their diet consists of live insects, fruits, vegetables

### Checklist!

- ◊ Enclosure
- ◊ Water bowl
- ♦ Food bowl
- ◊ Substrate
- Basking spot such as a rock or log
- ♦ Hide
- ◊ Décor
- ♦ Heat globe and fitting
- ♦ UV globe and fitting
- ◊ Thermostat
- ◊ Timer
- ◊ Thermometer
- ◊ Cleaning agent
- Live food



## **Common Health Issues!**

Dysecdysis (Abnormal Shedding): Low humidity levels can sometimes result in the lizard having an 'incomplete' shed.

Metabolic Bone Disease (MBD): Calcium or vitamin D3 deficiency as a result of incorrect diet and/or lack of or incorrect UV Lighting.

IIf you notice any of the following symptoms, please contact our recommended vet, The Unusual Pet Vets. Loss of appetite, diarrhea, lethargy, retained skin around toes or tail tip, abnormal movements, disorientation, twitching/tremors



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# Blue Tongue Lizard Care Sheet!



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◊ Pellets

### Enclosure set up!

Blue tongue lizards are active, diurnal reptiles that spend most of their day basking and scavenging for food, they require a hot spot at one end of their enclosure, and a cool end.

An adult blue tongue lizard requires an enclosure that is at least 90x45x60cm in size and is best housed alone, this ensures they have plenty of room to move around and choose the temperature they wish to sit at. Every set up should have a lock on the doors to make sure that your little friend stays in their home and is safe.

A blue tongue lizard requires an absorbent substrate, a basking spot, and both a water and feeding dish. The water and food dishes should be at the cool end to prevent evaporation, and raising the humidity level. A Basking spot is located underneath the heat lights, and usually has a rock or log for the lizard to climb onto to bask, this helps maintain heat when lights are off. Then you are able to decorate it with other things such as artificial plants, skulls, logs, and can even put a background onto the back of the enclosure to give it a more natural feel!



#### **Maintenance!**

Although blue tongue lizards have a specific set of requirements, if they are all correct they grow and live perfectly.

We are here to help you accomplish that ideal environment your blue tongue lizards needs!

Blue Tongue Lizards need a hot basking spot set at 30-35°c, under this spot should be a platform for them to bask on. On the other side of the enclosure should be a cool end set at 24-26°c. The enclosure shouldn't drop below 18-21°c at night.

To ensure that these temperatures are where they are meant to be they should be monitored regularly through the use of a good quality thermometer.

Blue Tongue Lizards need a heat light as said above, they also need a UV globe. UVA/UVB are both enssential for the health of your blue tongue lizard. UVB allows your lizard to synthesise vitamin D3,which is in turn needed to metabolise calcium. Without having UVB there is a chance of them developing Metabolic Bone Disease (MBD), lethargy, lack of apetite, and a stunt in growth. UVA is needed to regulate feeding, mating, and diurnal movement.

As Blue Tongue Lizards are fed daily, they also make a bit of mess. This means that daily spot checks are required, and the substrate should be cleaned to remove any faeces, shed skin, or uneaten food.

### **Nutrition!**

Blue Tongue Lizards are omnivores, so they eat both plant and protein based foods. They need to be fed fresh fruit/ vegetables daily, and live food twice a day. Fruit should only make up 20% of their complete diet.

Live foods include; Crickets, Woodies, Mealworms, snails, and silkworms. All live food should be dusted with calcium powder to ensure that your lizard gets its calcium intake for the day. As blue tongue lizards are quite slow, they may have trouble catching faster insects such as crickets and woodies.

Fruits and vegetables that can be fed are; apple, pear, melons, pitted stone fruits, berries, banana, squash, carrot, endive, and kale. Lizards pellets are also fed and can be mixed into their salad mix. Along side live food and salad, blue tongue lizards are able to eat canned dog food (beef or chicken) with added calcium powder. Some foods to avoid are spinach, lettuce, avocado, rhubarb, onion, eggplant, and citrus.

Fresh water should be available for your lizard at all times, with it being changed daily.

