

## Shopping list– The Basics

- Appropriately size habitat 10 gal
- Screen top
- Substrate
- Branches for climbing & hiding
- Natural rock or wood hiding spot
- Reptile cage thermometers
- Water dish & sea sponge
- Calcium & multi-vitamin Supp.
- Daytime light (if needed)
- Nighttime light for viewing
- Under-tank heater mat
- Hydrometer
- Spray bottle for misting
- Live crickets & mealworms

## Habitat

Pick a **habitat** that is appropriate for your scorpion or tarantula. A 10 gallon terrarium is okay for a single pet. Tarantulas must be kept in separate tanks while scorpions can be housed in multiples.

**Humidity** level needs to be kept between 50-80%.

**Temperature** ranges:

- Day Cool side: 70-75°F
- Day Warm side: 80-85°F
- Use an under-tank heater mat on the warm side of the terrarium.
- Lighting for 10-12 hours a day is required. If ambient lighting is not sufficient, add a daytime light.
- Provide hiding places from the light as needed.

Use a **substrate**, such as reptile bark or coconut fiber.

Thoroughly clean your habitat once a week.



## Scorpion & Tarantulas

- **Average adult size:**  
Emperor Scorpion– 6-8” long  
Rose Hair Tarantula– 4-6” long
- **Average life span:**  
Emperor Scorpion– 5-8 years  
Rose Hair Tarantula– 5-15 years
- **Diet:**  
Insectivore
- **Habitat:**  
Desert

## Nutrition

Scorpions and Tarantulas are insectivores, meaning their diets consist of mainly insects. Alternate the crickets and mealworms to provide variety in their diet. Dust insects with a calcium supplement twice weekly and reptile multivitamin weekly.

Feed scorpions and tarantulas around nighttime because they are nocturnal. They spend most of the daylight hours hidden.

Always provided fresh water daily.

Provide a sea sponge inside the water dish so the scorpion or tarantula can drink easier.

## Grooming & Health

When tarantulas molt, they lie on their back with their feet in the air. Juveniles molt about four times a year and adults once a year. They may stop eating up to two weeks before molting.

**Signs of a healthy pet:**

- Eats regularly
- Healthy skin
- Active and alert

**Warning signs to watch for:**

- Dull Shell (exoskeleton)
- Very slow movements
- Getting stuck in molt
- Bleeding
- Swollen joints
- Loss of limbs

Experience Level: advanced

# Scorpions & Tarantulas

care guide



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*Our mission is to promote a compassionate and caring environment for animals and our employees. Our current staff are dedicated pet lovers and join us in fulfilling our mission of caring for happy, healthy pets.*

Be careful when handling scorpions and tarantulas they have fragile bodies and do not need to be held often. Also they are typically mild-tempered but can inflict venom.

*This care guide contains only general information and tips for proper care. Speak with a Pet Depot sales associate or veterinarian with questions concerning your pet's health.*

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