

# shopping list

## Step 1 - Enclosure

- ☐ Enclosure; 25 x 25 x 25cm minimum
- ☐ Substrate
- ☐ Cave hide
- ☐ Artificial plants

## Step 2 - Maintenance

- ☐ Water sprayer
- ☐ Heat mat

## Step 3 - Nutrition

- ☐ Feeding tongs
- ☐ Crickets

## Common Health Issues

**Dehydration:** Lethargy/loss of body condition due to humidity being too low.

**Mites:** If the enclosure is not kept clean mite infestations may occur.

**Loss of Appetite:** Most species require heating, particularly in winter. If temperatures drop too low they may lose their appetite and become ill.



If you notice any of the following symptoms, please contact your vet.

- Loss of appetite
- Lethargy
- Active during the day

Check out our educational YouTube videos by simply scanning the QR code on your smart phone or tablet.



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# SCORPION



## FAST FACTS

LIFESPAN: 6-10 years depending on species

SIZE: 5-10cm depending on species

ENCLOSURE: Small-medium sized terrarium

DIET: Crickets, wood roaches and silkworms

Find out everything you need for your Scorpion in 3 simple steps



Enclosure



Maintenance



Nutrition



# YOUR CARE GUIDE FOR SCORPIONS

## Step 1 - Enclosure



Australian Scorpions are shy, small, and only mildly venomous and they are a very easy pet to look after.

Scorpions are found right across Australia and different species inhabit different areas. The Black Rock Scorpion, the Rainforest Scorpion, and the Desert Scorpion are three species commonly kept as pets.

A small to medium sized terrarium will comfortably house a pair or trio of Scorpions. Substrates for your enclosure will vary depending on the species, with sand being optimum for Desert and Black Rocks, while a 50:50 sand-soil mix is ideal for Rainforests. Planting Cactus and desert plants in sandy soil and Madonna Lillie's in the 50:50 mix will help improve the look of the enclosure whilst also aiding in maintaining humidity.



## Step 2 - Maintenance



Scorpions are ectothermic (cold-blooded), so they require heat from an external source such as a heat mat, hot rock or heat lamp. The desired temperature is a gentle 25°C, with temperatures not exceeding 30°C. This is needed 24 hours a day, all year round.

Humidity is also required so that Scorpions don't dry out. This can be achieved by having a wet sponge as a permanent fixture in the enclosure. This will sustain a good humidity, whilst not creating excess condensation.

Scorpions are very clean animals, and will require minimum maintenance. Collection of prey carcasses and wiping down of the sides of the enclosure weekly will ensure good hygiene for your scorpions.

Never use detergents or insecticides when cleaning.

Scorpions will periodically shed their exoskeleton throughout the year and during this period they will generally remain hidden.

Feeding should be stopped, as it will cause stress to the animal. UV lights should remain on as they are used to harden the exoskeleton.

Scan the QR code on your smart phone or tablet to view our 'How To Set Up A Scorpion Enclosure' YouTube video and gain some tips and info!



## Step 3 - Nutrition



Scorpions are night time ambush hunters. When prey are present they strike with their pedipalps (pincers), trapping the prey. To kill their prey they will either crush them with their claws or use their stinger to inject venom into their prey. Once dead, the scorpion will suck out the body juices with their "chelicerae" (or fangs).

In the wild, scorpions will prey upon small insects, spiders or even other scorpions. In captivity they can be offered a range of invertebrate prey, such as crickets, wood roaches or silk worms.

### Warning!

Scorpions are an observation pet only, and handling should be avoided.

Australian Scorpions can give a painful sting but are not considered dangerous. First aid for a sting is to apply a cold pack and to seek medical aid if pain persists.

Recommended for ages 18+