



Crested Gecko Care Sheet

Species Information

- **Common Name:** Crested Gecko
 - **Scientific Name:** *Correlophus ciliatus*
 - **Lifespan:** 15–20 years in captivity
 - **Adult Size:** 6–10 inches
 - **Native Range:** New Caledonia (South Pacific)
 - **Temperament:** Generally calm and handleable
-



Habitat

Enclosure

- **Minimum Size:**
 - Juveniles: 10–20 gallons
 - Adults: 20-gallon tall tank or 18"x18"x24" enclosure
 - **Type:** Vertical (they are arboreal)
 - **Substrate:** Coconut fiber, paper towels, or bioactive soil
 - **Décor:** Climbing branches, cork bark, live/silk plants, hides
 - **Ventilation:** Essential to prevent mold and respiratory issues
-



Temperature & Humidity

- **Daytime Temperature:** 72–78°F
- **Nighttime Drop:** 65–72°F

- **Avoid temps over 82°F** (can cause stress or death)
 - **Heating:** Not always required—use ceramic heat emitter if needed
 - **Humidity:** 50–70%
 - **Misting:** 1–2x daily; maintain moisture but avoid soggy conditions
 - **Hydration:** Provide shallow water dish and misting for drinking
-

Lighting

- **UVB:** Optional but beneficial (low-level 5.0 UVB bulb)
 - **Photoperiod:** 12 hours of light/darkness
 - **Lighting Schedule:** Use timer for consistency
-

Diet

Main Food

- **Commercial Crested Gecko Diet (CGD):**
 - Complete powdered diet mixed with water
 - Feed 3–5x per week

Optional Treats

- Insects (2x/week): gut-loaded crickets, dubia roaches
- Fruit puree (occasional): banana, mango (small amounts)

Supplements

- Dust insects with calcium and D3 (if not using UVB)
 - Use multivitamin powder 1x per week
-



Cleaning & Care

- **Spot-clean daily** (remove feces, uneaten food)
 - **Full clean every 2–4 weeks** with reptile-safe disinfectant
 - Monitor weight, behavior, and appetite regularly
-



Handling

- Gentle and short sessions
 - Never grab by the tail (they can drop it!)
 - Let them climb onto your hand—best in the evening
 - Wash hands before and after handling
-



Health Concerns

- **Tail loss:** Common; does not regrow
 - **MBD (Metabolic Bone Disease):** From lack of calcium/UVB
 - **Shedding issues:** Caused by low humidity
 - **Lethargy, weight loss, or sunken eyes:** See a reptile vet
-



Pro Tips

- Great beginner reptile—low maintenance and no special heating/light required in most homes
- Each gecko has a unique personality and color pattern ("morph")
- Use a hygrometer and thermometer to track enclosure conditions
- Always buy from a reputable breeder or rescue