

## Check List

- 1 Heat dome/bulb
- 2 UVB light/fixture
- 3 Calcium Dust (Rep Cal)
- 4 Vitamins (Herpivite)
- 5 Water Dish
- 6 Food Dish
- 7 Thermometer
- 8 Substrate
- 9 Climbing Branches/  
Decorations
- 10 Bearded Dragon Pellets
- 11 Good Book

**Buy 6 or more items on the  
checklist and receive 10% off reg-  
ular price on items purchased**

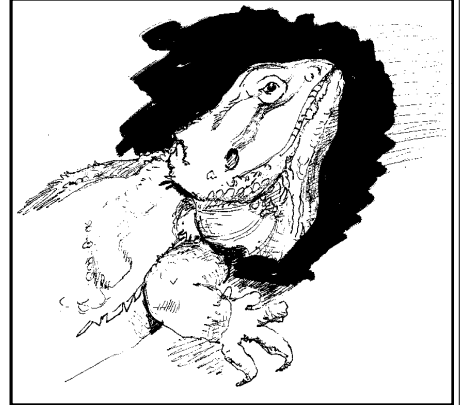


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**Tropical  
World Pets**

## Bearded Dragon Care Sheet



**\*\*Tropical World Pets\*\***

*Your hometown  
pet specialists*

**Tel: (314) 849-4020**

# Bearded Dragon Care Sheet



## Enclosures

Baby bearded dragons can be kept in a 10 gallon tank comfortably until they are 8-12 inches long. At that point they should be moved to an enclosure with minimum base dimensions of 36x18 inches or larger. The best substrate for babies is reptile carpet or newspaper, so they do not ingest anything while going after their food. The cage should be decorated with rocks and climbing branches. Make sure there are places under the basking light for the dragon to climb up and bask under the light. Be sure all decorations are sitting securely so they do not fall on the dragon.

## Heating and Lighting

Bearded dragons are from the deserts of Australia, so they like it hot. The best way to provide the needed warmth is through the use of a heat dome and light on one side of the cage to provide a basking area. Underneath the heat light the temperature should be 95-110 degrees, with the cool side of the cage in the low 80's so the dragon can regulate its temperature.

Bearded dragons also need a reptile

UVB light to provide simulated sunlight. The UVB is necessary for proper utilization of calcium and minerals for proper bone development.

Both lights should be on for 10-12 hours a day. If nighttime temps get below 70 degrees a nighttime heat bulb should be used to provide warmth.

## Feeding

Bearded dragons are omnivores. They will eat insects, vegetables, some fruits, and many other food items. Crickets are usually the main diet for a young bearded dragon. Offer finely chopped greens (mustard, collared, turnip greens and kale) early on to expose them to a varied diet. There is also a pellet diet available that makes feeding a complete diet easy. As they get larger, mealworms, superworms, large crickets, roaches, larger chopped fruits and vegetables, and even small pinky mice can be fed if desired. Baby dragons should be fed every day or every other day. Adults can be fed 2-3 times a week.

Calcium and vitamin supplements are necessary when feeding insects to your lizards because the insects do not have bones. Crickets should be dusted at every feeding for young lizards. Adults should be supplemented with a weekly dusting.

**NEVER feed lightning bugs to a bearded dragon—they are poisonous to them.**

## Water

Bearded Dragons do not recognize standing water. For that reason, babies should be

misted with a clean water bottle every day. Spray them lightly on the head and let them lick up the droplets. Keep spraying until they are done drinking. As they get older, they will usually learn to drink from a bowl, but keep spraying them until you see them consistently drinking from their water bowl. Make sure the water dish for a baby dragon is very shallow so they do not drown.

## Handling

Bearded dragons are considered one of the best pet lizards. They generally tolerate and even seem to enjoy gentle handling. Children should always be supervised when handling any pet. As with any animal, always wash your hands after handling or cleaning their cage.

*Get a good book on bearded dragons, as there is a lot to learn about these fascinating animals.*