



Crested Geckos at a Glance

Fun fact → Crested geckos use their tongues to clean and rehydrate their eyeballs.

Difficulty of care: **Beginner**

Average lifespan: **15–20 years with proper care**

Average adult size: **5–8 inches long**

Diet: **Omnivore**

Minimum habitat size: **20 gallons, habitats should be tall**

Temperature: **Warm side 72–75 F, cool side 68–75 F**

Humidity: **70–80%**



Crested Gecko Maintenance

- Spot-clean your tank as needed, removing fecal matter and urinary waste as soon as possible.
- It is recommended to set up a bioactive terrarium that breaks down waste naturally.
- Crested geckos need a humid environment with misting at least twice a day (you can set up an automatic mister).
- Crested geckos won't drink from a bowl and lick droplets on leaves, walls, and branches.

Handling

- Always wash your hands before and after handling your crested gecko.
- Crested geckos can be handled gently, but rough handling, especially by their tails, can cause their tails to break off. Unlike several other reptiles, their tails will not grow back if dropped.
- Handling time should be minimized while the lizard is shedding.

Supply Checklist

- 20-gallon+ arboreal enclosure
- Powdered crested gecko food
- Substrate
- Sphagnum moss
- Gecko food ledge and cups
- Hideaway place
- Climbing decor
- Plants
- Heat light
- Heat fixture
- Vitamin supplement
- Calcium supplement
- Cricket quencher
- Cricket keeper
- Cricket food
- Thermometer
- Hygrometer (humidity gauge)



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Crested Gecko Facts

- Crested geckos come from New Caledonia and were believed to be extinct until 1994.
- Crested geckos are also known as eyelash geckos for their beautiful eyelash frills.
- Crested geckos come in over 100 distinct colors and pattern variations called morphs, including:

Pinstripe: Distinct dorsal stripes that run along the back

Harlequin: Bold, patchy patterns with vibrant colors

Dalmatian: Speckled spots resembling a Dalmatian dog

Flame: Bright coloration with a flame-like pattern on the sides

Tiger: Striped or banded patterns resembling a tiger

Phantom: Muted colors with a ghostly appearance

Lilly white: A rare morph with creamy white coloration, often with unique patterns

Health

A healthy crested gecko will have clear, clean eyes and vent, and a bright, alert personality.

Call a vet if your crested gecko is lethargic, not eating, has stuck shed, or discharge around their vent.

Common illnesses in crested geckos include:

- Stuck shed
- Skin infections
- Vitamin A deficiency
- Gastrointestinal obstructions

Fun fact → Crested geckos love to climb. They are powerful jumpers and will leap between branches in their habitat.

Diet

- Crested geckos should be given a nutritionally complete powdered food, formulated specifically for crested geckos every day.
- Once or twice a week, crested geckos can be offered gut-loaded insects that have been dusted in a calcium supplement with vitamin D and a multivitamin and mineral supplement for reptiles.
- Crested geckos can also be offered soft fruits or fruit-based unsweetened baby food as an occasional treat.
- They should always have access to fresh, clean water.

Fun fact

→ Crested geckos are affectionately known as “cresties.”

