



Tokay Gecko at a Glance

Difficulty of care: **Advanced**

Average lifespan: **10+ years with proper care**

Average adult size: **Up to 16"**

Diet: **Insect-heavy diet of varied, nutrient-rich insects**

Minimum habitat size: **15–20 gallons for juveniles; 20+ gallons for adults**

Temperature: **80–85 F during the day; no lower than 70 F at night**



Fun fact ↻ They are nocturnal and prefer living in trees.

Enclosure Setup & Maintenance

- Tokay geckos must live alone because they are territorial and may fight.
- Use a secure tank with a mesh top. Line it with moisture-retaining substrate such as sphagnum moss, orchid bark, or coconut fiber. Avoid wood chips, gravel, and walnut shells.
- Provide at least two elevated hides, plus plants, branches, and basking rocks. Do not use hot rocks.
- Create a temperature gradient of 80–85 F during the day and keep nights above 70 F. Tokay geckos benefit from 10–12 hours of UV light.
- Maintain humidity between 60%–80% and mist at night if needed.
- Spot-clean daily and wash bowls every day. Do a full habitat cleaning weekly, including removing your gecko, disinfecting the enclosure, rinsing well, and letting everything dry fully.

Supply Checklist

- Proper-sized habitat and moisture-retaining substrate
- Sphagnum moss
- Food and water dishes
- Hides, plants, and climbing décor
- Heat lights, UVB lighting, thermostats, thermometers
- Calcium with vitamin D and multivitamin/mineral powders
- Cricket keeper and gut-load food
- Live insects
- Humidity gauge



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Diet

Tokay geckos eat a variety of recently fed insects, such as crickets, roaches, mealworms, hornworms, and waxworms. Insects should be smaller than the space between the gecko's eyes.

Feed only what they can finish in 30 minutes, and gut-load insects 24–72 hours before feeding.

Dust insects with calcium plus vitamin D and a multivitamin/mineral powder. Juveniles need calcium daily and minerals twice weekly. Adults need calcium two to three times weekly and minerals one to two times weekly.

Provide a water dish, although most tokay geckos drink from mist in their enclosure.

Fun fact ↪ They can drop their tails when stressed; the tail regrows in 1–3 months.

Health

Healthy signs of tokay geckos include active movement, clean eyes and skin, and a good appetite.

Contact a vet for weight loss, breathing issues, discharge, swelling, retained shed, limping, or abnormal droppings.

Annual vet exams are recommended for tokay geckos.



Fun fact ↪ Tokay geckos get their name from the “to-kay” call they make.