



Anole at a Glance

Difficulty of care: **Beginner**

Average lifespan: **About 3 years
with proper care**

Average adult size: **5–8” long**

Diet: **Gut-loaded live insects**

Minimum habitat size: **10 gallons for
one to two anoles; 20 gallons for three to four**

Temperature: **Warm end 85–88 F;
basking area 90–95 F; cool end around 75 F**

Fun fact ↪ Adults
shed every four to six
weeks, while juveniles
shed more frequently.



Enclosure Setup & Maintenance

- Anoles should be housed in an enclosure that is taller than it is wide to allow for climbing. A habitat of at least 10 gallons is suitable for one or two anoles, while three to four anoles need at least 20 gallons.
- Maintain humidity between 60–70% by misting regularly and using a moisture-retaining substrate such as sphagnum moss, coconut fiber, or cypress mulch. The warm side of the enclosure should remain between 85–88 F, with a basking area of 90–95 F and a cooler area around 75 F. Nighttime temperatures should stay between 70–75 F. Provide 10–12 hours of UV light daily.
- Include at least two hiding places, branches, rocks, and climbing décor to encourage natural behaviors. Spot-clean the habitat daily and perform a full cleaning and disinfection at least once each week.



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Supply Checklist

- Appropriately sized habitat
- Substrate and sphagnum moss
- Food and water dishes
- Mealworm dish
- Plants, climbing décor, and hideaway places
- Heat lights and fixtures
- Cricket keeper, food, and quencher
- Thermometers and humidity gauge
- Multivitamin and calcium supplement with vitamin D
- UVB lighting
- Live insects
- Thermostat
- Water mister

Fun fact ↪ These
lizards are quick and agile,
making them difficult to catch.

Health

Anoles should visit a veterinarian shortly after adoption and then receive annual wellness examinations. Healthy anoles have clear eyes, a clean tongue and vent, a healthy appetite, and vibrant skin coloration.

During shedding, ensure your anole has access to fresh water, as soaking may help remove old skin. Contact a veterinarian if you notice open-mouth breathing, lethargy, nasal discharge, weight loss, loss of appetite, retained shed, or skin lumps.

Always wash your hands before and after handling your anole or anything inside their habitat.

Fun fact ↪ Many anoles can become comfortable with gentle handling after adjusting to their environment.

Diet

Anoles should be fed a variety of gut-loaded live insects, including mealworms, roaches, and crickets. Juveniles need to eat every day, while adults can be fed every other day. Insects should be no larger than the width between the anole's eyes.

A general guideline is to offer two to three insects per feeding and remove any uneaten insects after a few minutes.

Dust insects with a calcium supplement before every meal and a multivitamin once each week.

Fresh water should always be available in a shallow dish, and the enclosure should be misted multiple times daily so anoles can drink water droplets from plants and enclosure surfaces.



Fun fact ↪ Anoles can detach their tails to escape predators.