



Brazilian Rainbow Boa at a Glance

Difficulty of care: **Beginner**

Average lifespan: **Up to 30 years with proper care**

Average adult size: **4–6' long**

Diet: **Carnivorous; thawed frozen rodents**

Minimum habitat size: **125 gallons for adults (55 gallons for juveniles)**

Temperature: **Warm side 85–90 F; cool side 70–75 F**



Fun fact ↪ Even well-socialized rainbow boas generally do not enjoy frequent handling.

Enclosure Setup & Maintenance

- Brazilian rainbow boas should be housed alone in a secure, well-ventilated enclosure with a tight-fitting screened lid. Juveniles need at least a 55-gallon habitat, while adults require a minimum of 125 gallons.
- The enclosure should provide a warm side between 85–90 F and a cool side between 70–75 F. Your snake should receive 8–12 hours of UV light each day. Humidity levels should be maintained between 70–80% through regular misting.
- Use at least 2 inches of loose substrate, such as cypress mulch or coconut husk. Include two hide boxes, one on each side of the enclosure, and place moist sphagnum moss in the warm hide to help maintain humidity. Climbing branches, plants, and shelves should be provided for exercise.
- Clean and disinfect the enclosure weekly, replace the substrate, and provide fresh water in a large bowl suitable for soaking.



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Supply Checklist

- Appropriately sized habitat
- Substrate and sphagnum moss
- Large water bowl
- Frozen rodents
- Hideaways
- Plants and climbing décor
- Heat lights and fixtures
- UV light source
- Under-tank heater and thermostat
- Thermometers and humidity gauge
- Mister

Fun fact ↪ Because they have poor eyesight, they rely on vibrations to sense activity around them.

Diet

Brazilian rainbow boas should be fed whole, thawed, previously frozen rodents.

Juveniles typically eat pinkie mice once each week. As they grow, larger prey such as fuzzies and hoppers can be offered. Adult snakes can be fed full-grown mice or rats every one to two weeks.

Food items should not be wider than the snake's body. Feeding tongs should be used when offering prey.

Fun fact ↪ Brazilian rainbow boas are nonvenomous snakes native to Central and South America.

Health

Brazilian rainbow boas should receive a yearly wellness exam from an exotic animal veterinarian. Healthy snakes have clear eyes, smooth skin, regular tongue-flicking behavior, and a relaxed demeanor.

These snakes shed several times each year, usually in one complete piece. Because they can become irritable during shedding, handling should be avoided at that time.

Contact a veterinarian if you notice cloudy eyes, retained shed, skin lesions, loss of appetite, lethargy, tumors, or discharge around the cloaca.

Always wash your hands before and after handling, as snakes can carry Salmonella.

Fun fact ↪

Their scales are iridescent and create a rainbow-like shimmer when light reflects off them.

