Schneider's Skink at a Glance

Fun fact They are active lizards that enjoy exploring and burrowing.

Difficulty of care: **Intermediate**

Average lifespan: **15 years or more with proper care**

Average adult size: **10–18 inches**

Diet: **Omnivorous**

Minimum habitat size: **30 gallons (add 20+ gallons for each additional skink)**

Temperature: **Warm side: 95–110 F; cool side: 80–85 F (no lower than 75 F at night)**



Enclosure Setup & Maintenance

- Provide a secure enclosure with a screened lid and 1–2 inches of loose substrate for digging and burrowing. Use safe substrates such as reptile sand or coconut fiber, and avoid gravel, wood chips, or walnut shells.
- Include at least two hiding places, one on the warm side and one on the cool side, with damp sphagnum moss in the warm hide to support shedding. Add a sturdy basking rock or branch, along with shallow food and water dishes large enough for soaking.
- Maintain a warm side of 95–110 F, a cool side of 80–85 F, humidity between 40–60%, and provide 10–12 hours of UVB light daily.
- Spot-clean the enclosure daily and perform a complete cleaning and disinfection every week.

Supply Checklist

- Appropriately sized enclosure
- Loose substrate and sphagnum moss
- Food and water dishes
- Hide boxes and climbing décor
- Heat source and thermostat
- UVB lighting
- Thermometers and humidity gauge
- Live insects and frozen pinky mice
- Calcium supplements (with and without vitamin D)
- Reptile multivitamin

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Fun fact They have long bodies, short legs, and distinctive orange specks along their backs.

Health

Healthy Schneider's skinks have bright, clear eyes, an alert personality, and a good appetite.

These lizards tolerate only occasional handling, and hands should always be washed before and after contact.

Schedule annual veterinary checkups and contact your veterinarian if you notice swollen or sunken eyes, retained shed, lethargy, loss of appetite, lumps, swelling, or failure to burrow.

Fun fact Like many lizards, they can drop their tails to escape predators.

Diet

Young skinks should be fed daily, while adults eat every two to three days. Offer a varied diet of live insects and thawed frozen pinky mice, along with small amounts of leafy greens, carrots, berries, and other fruits and vegetables.

Alternate calcium supplements with and without vitamin D at each feeding, and provide a reptile multivitamin once a week.



Fun fact
They usually shed their skin in patches rather than one complete piece.