



Short-Fingered Gecko



OVERVIEW



- Scientific Name: *Stenodactylus spp.*
- Origin: Africa
- Ease of Care: Beginner
- Potential Adult size: Up to 4 inches
- Life Span: Up to 7 years
- Behaviour: Crepuscular
- Diet: Insectivore
- Handling: Advanced (easily stressed so shouldn't be handled unless necessary)
- Humidity: 50%

TOP TIPS

- ✓ Vary the food items you offer to your animal to keep it stimulated
- ✓ Use a sand scoop to make spot cleaning easier

HOUSING

The HabiStat Leopard Gecko Starter Kit (HSLGSK) includes an ideal forever home for the species, as well as all the needed essentials regarding heat, UVB, and heat protection.

The HabiStat Glass Terrarium (HGT4545) would also be ideal for a single, or small group of 3-4 of these geckos.

EQUIPMENT NEEDED

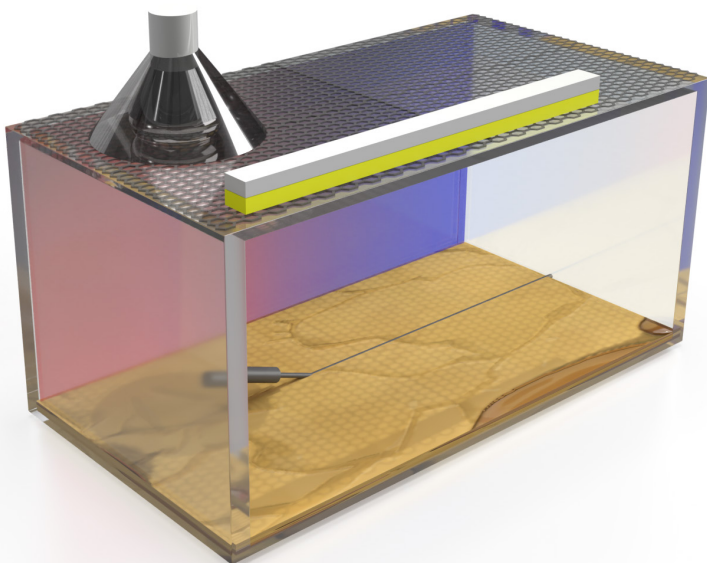


- Housing: Terrarium/Terrarium
- Heating: Heat Bulb/Heat-Mat
- Lighting: UV Tube (Light Cycle: 12 hours of light)
- Substrate: HabiStat Leopard Gecko Bedding, HabiStat Desert Sand, HabiStat Bearded Dragon Bedding
- Water: Water Bowl

ENVIRONMENT



Terrestrial Terrarium Setup



Heating

This Gecko species are considered crepuscular reptiles and require a suitable light and heat gradient within the enclosure to simulate a complete 24-hour period.

- Background Temp: 22°C (72°F) to 25°C (77°F).
- HOT Spot: 30°C (86°F)
- Night-Time Temp: 18°C (64°F) to 21°C (69°F)

Provide a warmer/hot area towards the one side of the enclosure, using an overhead heat source or a heat-mat attached to the outside rear/side of the terrarium. This will offer a heat gradient.

For overhead heat, use the Arcadia Reflector Clamp Lamp with Ceramic Holder (RART75) with a HabiStat

Heat Bulb (HBB75) in conjunction with a HabiStat Dimming Thermostat (HTDW).

Dimming thermostats are designed to regulate temperatures using a thermostat probe (also known as a sensor). Correct placement of the probe is critical to avoid overheating and potential injury to the animal.

For the heat-mat method, attaching a HabiStat Heat Mat (HHM11) to the outside rear/side of the terrarium will offer a heat gradient when used in conjunction with a HabiStat Mat Stat (HTMW1).

Check temperatures regularly, using a reliable dual thermometer and hygrometer to ensure that there are no extreme fluctuations.

Lighting

Fit the Arcadia ProT5 UVB Kit 7% (RARTP8S) by simply laying the kit on top of the mesh roof of the terrarium.

Ensure that it is fitted correctly and within the manufactures recommended distances.

Substrate and Decoration

Personal choice will dictate how you decorate your enclosure, but we recommend the following as a guide:

- HabiStat Leopard Gecko Bedding (HSLGB5), HabiStat Bearded Dragon Bedding (HSBDB5), HabiStat Desert Sand (HDSAND)
- Wood/branches & rocks for climbing, hiding, and sleeping on such as the HabiStat Grapevine (HSGVS), HabiStat Cork Branch (HDB500), and the HabiStat Hideout (HSNLHM) would also provide shade and shelter.
- Live or artificial plant decoration will provide darker areas for the animal
- Water bowl – a suitably sized sturdy water bowl must be provided in the cool end of the enclosure

DIET & WATER

Hatchlings through to adults should be offered appropriately sized insects.

Always provide a source of fresh water. The HabiStat Sandstone Water Dish (HRSSC) on the floor of the enclosure will provide a safe and sturdy option for this necessity.

Misting the enclosure as needed will also allow for the maintenance and regulation of the species humidity requirements.

SUPPLEMENTATION

This gecko species need additional supplementation in the form of a calcium and multi-vitamin powder such as Arcadia Earth Pro-A (RAREP100) and Arcadia Pro Calcium Mg (RAREPCM80). Please follow the packaging instructions.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- This species of gecko needs a steady high humidity range, so a good substrate, misting, and a HabiStat moss hide (HSNMH) filled with moss would be ideal.
- This species can live in small groups of 3 or 4, or on their own.

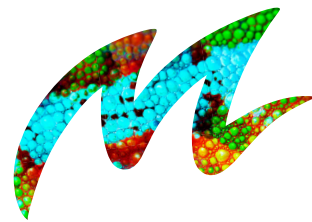
HEALTH & HYGIENE



We recommend the following cleaning routine to keep your Short-Fingered Gecko healthy and happy:

	Water	Substrate	Enclosure
Daily	Change old water for fresh water	Spot clean	Check vents on enclosure are not blocked and allow air to pass through freely
Weekly	Disinfect water bowl or dish	Agitate substrate to prevent any bacterial build up and to allow any dirty bedding to be removed	Wipe down glass and walls with a reptile safe disinfectant
Monthly		Take out old substrate and replace with new substrate	Wipe down inside the enclosure and disinfect décor with a reptile safe disinfectant

Always wash your hands, surfaces and equipment with warm water and disinfectant immediately before and after handling your animal, their food, enclosure, and any other equipment.



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