

# CARE

## **Helmeted Iguana**



## **OVERVIEW**



- · Scientific Name: Corytophanes cristatus
- Origin: Central America
- Ease of Care: Intermediate
- · Potential Adult Size: 12-16 inches
- Life Span: Upwards of 7 years
- Behaviour: Diurnal
- · Diet: Insectivore
- · Handling: Intermediate
- Humidity: 70-90%







#### **TOP TIPS**

- Provide climbing opportunities throughout the enclosure
- √ Add live plants and pockets of moss to help maintain humidity

### **HOUSING**



The HabiStat Glass Terrarium 91.4  $\times$  45.7  $\times$  90cm (HGT9190) is ideal for this species.

## **EQUIPMENT NEEDED**

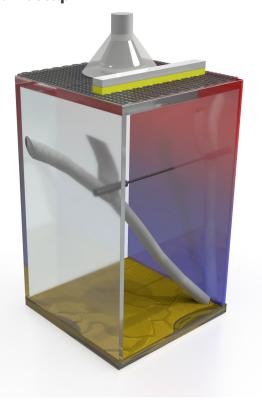


- · Housing: Terrarium
- · Heating: Heat-Bulb
- Lighting: UV Tube (Light Cycle: 12 Hours of light)
- Substrate: HabiStat Jungle Bio (HSJB10), HabiStat Coir (HSCB)
- Water: HabiStat Sandstone Water Dish (HRSSCM)

#### **ENVIRONMENT**



#### **Terrarium Setup**



#### **Heating**

Helmeted Iguanas are ectothermic (coldblooded) animals and take all their heat requirements from external sources.

- · Background Temp: 24-26°C (75-79°F)
- · HOT Spot: 30°C (86°F)
- Night-Time Temp: 20-24°C (70-75°F)

Use a HabiStat 100w Basking Spotlamp (HBB100) in an Arcadia Reflector Clamp Lamp Holder (RARMG160) running through a HabiStat Dimming Thermostat (HTDW) to provide overhead heat. This can be placed on the mesh roof of the Terrarium.

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 injury to the animal.

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

#### Lighting

Use the Arcadia Pro T5 (RARTP39F), as this is specifically designed for forest dwelling reptiles. Make sure the UV light is fitted correctly and that the animal is not able to get too close.

Using an Arcadia Jungle dawn LED Bar (RAJDP3) will also add contribute to providing beneficial full spectrum lighting within the Terrarium for both the animal and plant life when used alongside the suggested UV light.

#### **Substrates and Decoration**

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

- HabiStat Jungle Bio (HSJB10), or HabiStat
   Coir (HSCB) with pockets of HabiStat
   Sphagnum Moss (HSM1) mixed in.
- HabiStat Cork Branch (HDB1), HabiStat Grapevine (HSGV) and HabiStat Tea Tree Branch (HSNTB) will offer shelter and enrichment within the enclosure.
- The HabiStat Rainmaker (HRSM) and Habistat Humidifier (HDH01) will aid maintaining humidity.
- Live or artificial plant decoration will provide darker areas for the animal to use as shelter.

#### **DIET & WATER**



Ensure the Helmeted Iguana is offered a variety of insects.

Make sure to feed when they are most active, usually in the daytime.

Always provide a source of fresh water using the HabiStat Sandstone Water Dish (HRSSCM).

To maintain and regulate humidity within the enclosure, mist as required. The Habistat Rainmaker (HRSM) and HabiStat Humidifier (HDHO1) also help to maintain humidity levels.

## **SUPPLEMENTATION**



Helmeted Iguanas need additional supplementation in the form of a calcium and multi-vitamin powder such as Arcadia Earth Pro-A (RAREP100) and Arcadia Earth Pro Calcium Mg (RAREPCM80). Follow the on-pack instructions.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**



- As an arboreal species, ensure you provide plenty of branches and large plants for climbing.
- This species will drink water droplets on leaves and décor.
- They are a sit and wait ambush predator, so they may not actively hunt their food.

## **HEALTH & HYGIENE**



We recommend the following cleaning routine to keep your Helmeted Iguana 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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