

## **Shopping List**

This shopping list was created to better assist you in looking for everything you will need to give your Leo the best home it can have. Always shop around for best prices and be sure to ask for location suggestions and advice on set up for anything you need. Our other files are also a great place to find this information.

### **Enclosure**

Minimum size - **36" x 18" x 18" / 90cm x 45cm x 45cm**

**Wooden enclosures** : Wood is much more common amongst UK residents, however they have been slowly making their way into the North American market.

- Vivexotics (UK)
- ProVivs (UK)
- Boa Master (USA)
- Zen Habitats (USA)

**Glass enclosures** :

- Exo Terra Large/Wide (36"x18"x18")
- Exo Terra Large/Tall (36" x 18" x 24")
- Zoo Med Naturalistic Terrarium Double Door- Premium 40 gallon reptile habitat (NT-40DW) (36" x 18" x 18")
- Thrive Essentials (36" x 18" x 18")

**\*\* Front opening setups are always preferred, bigger is also preferred also**

- 40 Gallon Breeder 36" x 18" x 16"- These will be top opening

#### **PVC enclosures :**

- Reptile Kages
- Animal Plastics
- DragonHause
- Herpastic
- Scale Box
- Boa Master

### **Dimming Thermostat**

Essential for your gecko's safety and longevity of the overhead heat source. Failure to utilize a dimming thermostat can lead to premature failure of overhead heat source as well as strobing of light emitting heat sources (e.g. halogens and basking bulbs). Various Brands available and range in price but do keep in mind that dimming thermostats tend to be more expensive than their on/off counterparts as they require much more intricate technology. **An on/off (heat mat) thermostat is not a substitute for a dimming thermostat.**

#### **North American Options :**

- Spyder Robotics HERPSTAT EZ1 or 2 - EZ1 has been discontinued but can sometimes still be found by third party retailers.
- Spyder Robotics HERPSTAT 1 - **The Intro series does not have basking assist and therefore are not suitable for light emitting heat sources.**

- Vivarium Electronics VE-200
- Vivarium Electronics VE-300
- Exo Terra 300W Dimming Thermostat (New) - Be sure to get the updated dimming one, as older 300W models do not have the dimming function.
- Exo Terra 600W Dimming Thermostat (Old) - Functions using a light sensor to switch between day and night which is sometimes problematic.
- Exo Terra 600W Dimming Thermostat w/ Day/Night Timer (New)

#### **UK Options :**

- Habistat Dimming Thermostat
- Microclimate Evo Lite
- Microclimate Evo
- Exo Terra 300W Dimming Thermostat (New) - Be sure to get the updated dimming one, as older 300W models do not have the dimming function.
- Exo Terra 600W Dimming Thermostat (Old) - Functions using a light sensor to switch between day and night which is sometimes problematic.
- Exo Terra 600W Dimming Thermostat w/ Day/Night Timer (New)
- Komodo Dimming Thermostat

### **Heat Source**

You should only need one, provided the correct strength (wattage) is used and the enclosure is well insulated (e.g. foam background, substrate, lots of decor). A halogen is recommended as it offers both visible light as well as deep penetrating heat, allowing for better thermoregulation. If you need supplemental heat either for

nighttime or to boost daytime temperatures during colder months, then a non light emitting heat source such as a DHP or CHE is recommended.

- Halogen Dimmable Flood Light Bulb PAR 30-38 - These can be found at hardware stores. Common brands include Phillips and GE, be sure to get a PAR no lower than 30. Wattage depends on enclosure material as well as personal climate. A standard 36"x18"x18"/90cm x 45cm x 45cm usually requires a 75-100W.
- Arcadia Deep Heat Projector (DHP ) - Only comes in 50W and 80W. It is recommended to use an 80W with glass enclosures due to their poor heat retention.
- Arcadia Halogen - Only the 100W is a PAR38, the others are PAR30.
- Arcadia Solar Basking Spot Bulb
- Zoo Med Repti Basking Spot Lamp Bulb
- Zoo Med Repti Halogen Heat Bulb
- Exo Terra Intense Basking Spot Bulb
- Exo Terra Daylight Basking Spot Bulb

## **Heat Source Fixture**

You will need one fixture per heat source. Please keep in mind that it is important to read all user manuals to ensure compatibility and safe usage (e.g. Zoo Med domes are not compatible with CHEs).

### **Interior mounted fixtures :**

- Arcadia Ceramic Lamp Holder & Bracket Pro

- ProRep Ceramic Lamp Holder & Bracket (UK)
- Komodo Ceramic Lamp & Bracket (UK)

### **Domes :**

- Zoo Med Deep Dome Lamp Fixture 8.5"
- Exo Terra Reptile Dome 8"
- Arcadia Ceramic Dome Reflector Clamp Lamp 8"
- Fluker's Repta-Clamp Lamp with switch 8.5" or 10".
- Fluker's Repta-Clamp Lamp with Dimmable Switch 8.5" - Cannot be used with a Dimming Thermostat.
- Zoo Med Wire Cage Clamp Lamp
- Exo Terra Wire Light Small or Large - Ideal for use with CHEs.

## **Measurement Devices**

Essential for monitoring humidity and temperature. Different devices will measure different ways so be sure to get various ones to ensure all values are being measured properly.

- Infrared Temperature Gun - Measures surface temperature. This is used to monitor the surface of the basking spot (91-100°F/33-38°C) and will only measure surface temperatures.
- Digital thermometers/hygrometers - Digital devices are recommended as they're much more accurate than their analog counterparts. Analog devices tend to sometimes 'get stuck' and won't show an accurate reading.

- Probes - Probe thermometers and hygrometers measure ambient readings (air) and are fairly easy to calibrate if need be.
- Sensor - Sensors (e.g. some thermometer/hygrometer combos such as ThermPro use sensors located on the back of the device) also only measure ambient readings. These must be placed directly in the enclosure to work and therefore are not a great choice for high humidity or bioactive enclosures as getting them wet can cause them to fail.

Most reptile brands also offer probe thermometers. Non reptile brand suggestions would be ThermoPro (Amazon) for sensor thermometer/hygrometer combos, and most IR temperature guns on Amazon. Be sure to check reviews before purchasing, and please keep in mind that there should be at least one thermometer and one hygrometer per side of the enclosure.

## **UV Lighting**

You only need one UVB Lighting System and please see UV File for more detailed specifics on UV and which one to utilize.

- Arcadia ShadeDweller ProT5 UVB Kit and ShadeDweller 7% UVB tube (Only use this tube for replacements).
- Arcadia ProT5 Fixture
- Arcadia T8 Fixture
- Zoo Med Reptisun T5HO Terrarium Hood - Should be  $\frac{1}{3}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$  the length of your enclosure.

- Zoo Med Reptisun T8 Terrarium Hood - Should be  $\frac{3}{4}$  to the full length of your enclosures.

**\*\***All T5 UV bulb brands are cross compatible, as are all T8 bulb brands. This means fixtures from any brand can be used with the recommended bulbs. We do not recommend bulbs from brands other than Arcadia or Zoo Med.

## **Grow Lights**

Grow lights are needed to provide energy to plants. While some plants do thrive in shaded areas, and they can utilize parts of UV as well as the light emitted from a light emitting heat source, in order for proper photosynthesis they require full spectrum lighting. This means you will need an added fixture dedicated solely to plant lighting in order to ensure proper and healthy plant growth. Just as we believe in above and beyond care for our animals, we should provide above and beyond care for all living things in an enclosure. Grow lights should span the entire length of the planted area to ensure the light is directly over all plants.

**\*\***Aquarium lights are not recommended as they were created with an intent to be used over water and therefore take reflection into consideration with their design. Their diodes tend to be multicolored and spaced further apart which creates poor lighting for terrestrial plants.

### **Brands :**

- Arcadia Jungle Dawn LED
- Reptile Systems New Dawn LED
- BioDude's Glow and Grow



## **Substrate**

Proper loose substrate is essential for a naturalistic environment as this allows the gecko to display its natural digging behaviors. However, some substrates need to be “avoided” such as Calci-Sand, Wood Chips, and straight sand on their own. Leopard geckos inhabit Pakistan, Afghanistan, India, and Iran which is composed mostly of grasslands, solid yet still diggable substrate like soil/sand/clay mix.

### **Premade substrate blends :**

- Arcadia EarthMix Arid (UK & Canada)
- LeoLife (UK)
- BioDude's Terra Sahara (USA)
- Exo Terra Stone Desert

### **Individual ingredients for self made blends :**

- Organic Topsoil with NO additives or fertilizers (no manure of any kind and compost is a 'use at your own risk' ingredient).
- Reptisoil
- Play Sand
- Reptisand - Not to be mistaken with Calcium sand or any other vitamin enriched substrate.

### **Additives :**

- Zoo Med Excavator Clay
- Exo Terra Stone Desert
- Leaf litter



- Large gravel

#### **Humid hide :**

- Zoo Med Eco Earth
- Sphagnum moss
- Paper towels

### **Supplements**

Essential for the overall health of your leopard gecko. Plain calcium can be left in the enclosure at all times for self regulation, however is not a substitution for dusting feeders. Most supplements follow the same schedule of: calcium every feed and a multivitamin once weekly. The calcium should be plain calcium if the keeper is using UV or have added D3 if UV is not being used in the enclosure, it is also recommended for UV users to dust with D3 once or twice a month as a precaution. It is important to double check brand instructions though as some brands follow vastly different schedules (e.g. Arcadia supplements are well known for their unique schedule).

#### **Brands :**

- Zoo Med - Calcium (w/ or w/o D3) and Reptivite
- Repashy - Calcium Plus (all in one vitamin)
- Arcadia - EarthPro A (vitamin), EarthPro-CalciumProMG (plain calcium)

## **Hides and Bowls**

Hot, humid and cool hides at a minimum are necessary. For larger enclosures it is recommended to add additional hides.

- Hides can be store bought or DIY such as cork, mason jar, Tupperware/plastic bowls.
- Water bowl - store bought or DIY.
- Small calcium bowl/dish (this can be as simple as a milk jug lid).
- Escape proof bowl for feeders, if your leos will eat from bowls.

## **Decor**

Essential for your leo to feel secure and provide shade as needed, these are just some examples of what can be provided and can be found at most pet shops, craft stores, and dollar stores.

- Cork bark
- Wood logs
- Driftwood
- Rocks
- Fake plants
- Live plants