

## PETSMART CARES

Pets purchased at PetSmart are part of our exclusive Vet Assured™ program; a program designed by PetSmart veterinarians to help improve the health and well-being of our pets. The program includes:

- Specific standards our vendors agree to meet in caring for and observing pets for common illnesses.
- Specific standards for in-store pet care.
- The PetSmart Promise: If your pet becomes ill during the initial 14-day period, or if you're not satisfied for any reason, PetSmart will gladly replace the pet or refund the purchase price.

## HEALTH

New surroundings and environments can be stressful for pets. Prior to handling your pet, give him 3-4 days to adjust to his new surroundings while monitoring his behavior for any signs of stress or illness. Shortly after purchase, have a veterinarian familiar with reptiles examine your pet.

## THINGS TO WATCH FOR

- Runny droppings for more than two days
- Eating or drinking less; weight loss
- Swollen joints
- Discharge from the eyes, nose or mouth
- Shedding problems; discolored skin
- Decreased basking; more time spent hiding

If you notice any of the above signs, speak with a PetSmart store associate or reptile veterinarian with questions about the health of your pet.

## SHOPPING LIST

### Step 1: Choosing a Terrarium

- 40-gallon (32-36" long) or larger terrarium
- Screen top, if not included with habitat

### Step 2: Heating and Lighting

- Reptile habitat thermometers (2)
- Reptile habitat hygrometer
- Daytime UVA/UVB bulb and fixture
- Basking spot bulb and fixture
- Lamp stand for UV and basking bulb, if desired
- Ceramic heat emitter and fixture or nighttime bulb, if necessary
- Timer for light and heat bulbs; if desired

### Step 3: Substrate and Decor

- Reptile bark
- Artificial/natural rock or wood hiding area and basking site
- Branches for climbing and hiding
- Food and water dishes

### Dietary Needs

- Appropriate insects
- Cricket keeper
- Cricket food and cricket water gel
- Calcium supplementation
- Fresh fruits and vegetables

This care guide contains general information for the proper care of your pet, but is not comprehensive. For more information, review the Habitat Set-up Guide and the Heating and Lighting Guide.



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# FRILLED DRAGON

*Chlamydosaurus kingii*

EXPERIENCE LEVEL: INTERMEDIATE



Approximately 15 years



Up to 36" (91 cm) long



Tropical/Arboreal Environment

## Did You Know?

Frilled Dragons (aka Frilled Lizards) have a flap (flap of skin) over their back that they can fan out to make them appear larger and more threatening as a defense mechanism. They are also very fast runners when threatened.

PetSmart® Care Guides were developed and approved by PetSmart veterinarians. For more information on the care of Frilled Dragons or other pets, visit

[petsmart.com/careguides](http://petsmart.com/careguides)

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## STEP 1 Choosing a Terrarium

Frilled Dragons originate from Australia and southern New Guinea. It is best to house them individually.

### Terrarium

- A** Use a tall, 40-gallon terrarium (32-36" long) for a small dragon. Full-size dragons will require a minimum habitat length of 48".
- Taller enclosures are preferred as Frilled Dragons like to climb.
- B** Screened lid, if not included with habitat.

## STEP 2 Heating and Lighting

Frilled Dragons require a temperature gradient (cool side/warm side) to appropriately regulate their body temperature. Temperatures within the habitat should also vary between daytime and nighttime hours.

### Heating

- Equip the habitat with two **C** thermometers (one for each side of the habitat) and a **D** hygrometer to monitor the humidity levels.
- The basking spot should be the warmest point in the habitat during the day. Heat is provided by a **E** high-wattage heat bulb placed directly above the basking spot. During the evening hours, the basking light should be turned off.
- Use a ceramic heat emitter or night heat lamp as needed to maintain nighttime temperatures.

TARGET RANGE	
<b>HUMIDITY</b>	<b>50-80%</b>
<b>TEMPERATURE</b>	
<b>DAY - COOL AREA</b>	<b>70-80° F (21-27° C)</b>
<b>DAY - BASKING SPOT</b>	<b>95-100° F (35-38° C)</b>
<b>NIGHT</b>	<b>65-75° F (18-24° C)</b>

### Lighting

- Frilled Dragons are diurnal, meaning they are most active during the day. Use a daytime **F** UVA/UVB linear or compact fluorescent bulb for approximately 12 hours per day.
- For night viewing, use a night-specific bulb to minimize light.

## STEP 3 Substrate and Decor

### Substrate

- G** Use a 2-3" (5-8 cm) of reptile bark.
  - Clean out waste weekly and completely change bedding at least once a month.
- Decor**
- H** Include decor to elevate your dragon close to the heat source for basking.
- I** Add a wood/rock hiding place in the cool area of the home for hiding.
  - Ensure decor is large and stable enough for the size of your dragon.
  - Provide multiple branches (artificial or live) for climbing.



## Nutrition & Maintenance

### Dietary Requirements

- Frilled Dragons are insectivores, meaning their diet consists primarily of insects, however they will enjoy occasional vegetables and fruit.
- Frilled Dragons benefit from a variety of different items in their diet so it is important to alternate the insects and vegetables being fed.
- They require calcium supplementation as part of their diet and may benefit from a reptile multivitamin.
- Vegetables and fruit should be fed from a bowl to avoid accidental ingestion of the substrate.

Dietary Options		
	Examples	Feeding Frequency
Insects*	Crickets**, mealworms, occasional waxworms	Feed daily. Feed only enough to be consumed by the end of the day.
Vegetables*	Dark, leafy greens, (green leaf lettuce, dandelion greens, collard greens), carrots and peas	Every day to every other day. Offer only enough to be consumed in four hours.
Fruits	Berries, bananas	Once weekly to every other week. Offer only enough to be consumed in four hours.

\*Insects and vegetables should be dusted with a calcium supplement twice a week and multivitamin once a week.

\*\*Crickets should be fed a gut-loaded diet (commercially available nutrient-dense diet) prior to being fed to the reptile to ensure they have the proper nutrients for a healthy reptile diet.

### Water

- Frilled Dragons may drink from a shallow dish. If your dragon is not drinking from the bowl, regular misting will be required to maintain hydration.
- Water bowls should be emptied and refilled daily.

### Other Reminders

Use caution when handling pets and remember that all pets may bite or scratch especially when stressed. Avoid picking up your pet by the tail. Supervise children around pets.

Pets may transmit disease to humans; be sure to wash your hands before and after handling your pet or cleaning his home.