



# Housing needs

## Starter enclosure:

- 4x2x2 feet PVC closed-chamber

## Lighting:

- Basking floodlamp
- T5 High Output UVB strip
- LEDs (optional)

## Heating:

- Nighttime supplemental heat source on thermostat



Leopard  
Tortoise

## tortallyscute TORTOISE CARE SUMMARY

# Habitat

Leopards succeed in a hot, dry, but humid environment.

## Temperature:

- Basking at 95-115F
- Daytime warm side at 85-90F
- Daytime cool side at 80-85F
- Nighttime at 80-83F

## Humidity:

- Hot side: 40-60% RH
- Cool side: 60-80% RH

A pvc enclosure would meet both the temperature and humidity requirement without much intervention.

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## Substrate:

- 3-inch deep orchid bark

## Decor:

- Humid hide
- Basking slate
- Shallow water bowl

## Maintenance:

- Hot- and cool-side hygrometers
- Temperature gun
- UV meter (optional)



# About

Species: *Stigmochelys Pardalis*

Lifespan: ~ 50-80 years

Size: ~ 10-18 inches

# Leopard Tortoise



## tortallyscute TORTOISE CARE SUMMARY

### What not to do

- Keeping the substrate wet
- Feeding only one type of food
- Housing in open-top enclosures during baby years
- Leaving food overnight
- Using heat mats for belly heat

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## Nutrition

Leopard tortoises are herbivores feeding on high-fiber, low-protein diet.

Daily meals should consist of:

- 70% grasses and hay such as timothy, orchard, bermuda, wheat, or rye
- 15% weeds such as clovers, dandelions, and plantain
- 10% flowers and leaves such as hibiscus, geranium, mulberry, and cactus
- 5% commercial pellets such as Mazuri 5M21/LS, Zoo Med Grassland, or Lugarti Premium Pellets

A great source of tortoise safe plants can be found at [The Tortoise Table](#).

A good amount of salad should be about the size of your tortoise's shell.

To ensure complete nutrition is being met, supplement their meal with a sprinkle of calcium powder twice a week and vitamins bi-weekly.



## Healthcare

### Hydration

- Ensure proper humidity is met
- Always have clean water available
- Soak your tortoise 15-30 minutes daily for as long as you can keep it up

Enrichment: a happy tortoise is not a stressed tortoise

- Provide cuttlebone
- Have more than one hiding spot
- Switch up or add more feeding areas to encourage exploration
- Rearrange housing decor at least once a year
- Reduce handling, especially during their first year with you

Tortoise keeping is a commitment. It is important that not only proper care is maintained but also you must learn your pets' behaviors to ensure you spot changes in their day-to-day life. A small change in their behavior could lead to a life-or-death situation we do not want them to experience.

**ALWAYS DO MORE  
RESEARCH TO ENSURE  
YOU MEET THE NEEDS  
OF YOUR BELOVED  
LEOPARD TORTOISE**