**Scaley Addictions**

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Bearded Dragon

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We recommend an enclosure no smaller than a 4X2X2. The bigger the better. Let’s start with lights!  
  
**UVB**: T8 Reptisun 10.0 mounted inside your enclosure. These bulbs are cheaper online therefore we recommend having the link pulled up at the register as Petsmart and Petco will price match. Your UVB needs to cover 2/3 of your enclosure and overlap with your basking area**. UVB is an absolute must**. It is not an option. Your dragon will not thrive without it. Lack of UVB can and will cause MBD, as well as multiple other medical disorders.   
**Heat bulbs:** The watts of your heat source will depend on the size of your enclosure. Usually the rule is the bigger the enclosure the more watts you need. However, this can also depend on what your enclosure is made of. Your basking ambient temperature should between 90 and 95 degrees Fahrenheit. Your basking spot ( the hottest spot in your enclosure) should be between 105-110 degrees Fahrenheit for babies, and between 100 and 105°F for adults.

**Colored and night lights**: **Do NOT use either of these**. Colored lights can damage your dragon’s eyesight as well as causes disruption to sleeping patterns which will result in a grumpy dragon. If your home falls below 65°F at night a ceramic heat emitter is recommended. Keep in mind a ceramic heater emitter is only necessary, as stated before, if your house falls below 65°F at night. The cool down period Dragons experience overnight is beneficial to their metabolism.  
  
**Timer:** it is important that your dragon have a set schedule for lighting. We recommend a light timer. 12 hours on 12 hours off is the best way to go or set it to the natural daylight time in your aread adjusting it through the seasons.. This timer is an app on your phone where you can set the hours individually for each plug!  
<https://a.co/d/68Rb5Aq>   
  
*On to substrate! (flooring)*

* Non-adhesive shelf liner: Cheap! Easy to clean! Interchangeable! Soft! Also a good option for baby enclosures. Keep in mind non-adhesive is the only way to go as the adhesives on the shelf liners as well as a few other things can be poisonous to your dragons.
* Tile/slate: absolutely love this as a substrate. Very clean, very attractive. This substrate also must be non-adhesive. Again, the adhesive will be poisonous to your Dragon. You can use play sand to fill in the cracks of the tiles.
* Sand: If you will be using sand please use several precautions as we cannot stress enough that your set up must be on point. We like to use a mix of washed play sand with Exo-Terra Stone Dessert Outback red, Bahariya Black or Sonoran Ocher. Do NOT use the calciSand or any other sand products from pet stores. Be sure to scoop the poop as its “given”. This does cut down on the smell of Dragon poop.
* Sand/Soil Mix: many people love to do bioactive enclosures which is fine but please do your research on what plants are safe for your beardie as he will try to eat them. Again washed play sand mixed with a top soil that can be found at home depot Timberline Top Soil in a red bag. You do NOT want to use any soil with chemicals or the white balls in it as they will kill your dragon.
* Moss and wood: Moss and wood is not recommended for use as a substrate for a Dragons.
* Paper towels: paper towels are a great option for babies but don’t stay put and can get pricey constantly cleaning it up.

**“Decorations”:** dragons like to hide and climb. Provide a basking rock, branch, or a log for your Dragon. You may also include a hide or cave like structure. This may be a two in one if you prefer. Dragons love Hammocks but please know they also love to poop on them and its extremely difficult to clean thoroughly. I have never met a dragon that did not Love to hang out on its hammock. You may decorate your dragon’s enclosure however you wish. Keep it interesting for yourself and for them.

**Food/water dishes**: we recommend providing a clean bowl of water for your Dragon at all times, some may use them others may not. Also keep an eye on your humidity as keeping Water in the enclosure can raise it above what they will tolerate. Make sure your food bowl is not so deep that your dragon cannot reach it to eat.  
  
**Backgrounds:** if you are using a glass enclosure it is recommended that you cover three sides of the enclosure to prevent your baby from seeing their reflection. This can cause stress and agitation. You can use something as simple as construction paper. There are several stores with lovely backgrounds for fish tanks as well.  
  
**Thermometers/Hygrometer**: Digital thermometers are touch and go. Strip thermometers are almost useless. We recommend a temperature gun. With a heat gun you can measure the temperature in any part of your enclosure at any time. Temp gun done cheap! <https://a.co/d/9AnN14U>

Also an easy way to see temps from your phone. <https://a.co/d/41tZMP2>   
  
**Cohabitation is NEVER recommended as Dragons are solitary reptiles.**

**They prefer to be on their own. Cohabitation can and WILL cause fighting, injuries, and possibility of death.**

* Spinach and Kale are calcium binders. They cause calcium to form into hard balls that cannot be absorbed by your baby. These should not be fed!
* We recommend Collard, mustard, and turnip greens for your main “salad” staple. This can be supplemented with several other veggies daily.
* Do NOT mist your dragon! this can and WILL cause upper respiratory infections!
* Baths can be given as often as you like, however are only required if your baby makes a mess. Keep tails as clean as possible to avoid tail rot. NEVER leave your dragon alone while in the bath, and never fill the water above where they can stand comfortably.
* Dust your feeder of choice at one feeding a day. They MUST have calcium when fed! And reptile multivitamins 2-3 times per week,
* Babies and juveniles need a lot of bugs to help with their growth. Bugs can be varied, crickets, dubia roaches, meal worms etc.
* As babies and “teens” the recommended ratio of live food and “salad” is 80/20. Adults are flipped to 20/80.
* Keep a close eye on children handling your baby. They are FAST, and very good hiders!

**Foods!!!**

* Dragons under 1 year of age: Hatchlings and Juvenile dragons require 20% greens in their diet. Young dragons can be finnicky about greens and most will only pick at them. Don’t be alarmed if your baby does not love their daily salad. Salad MUST be offered daily.
* Dragons 1 year and older: Adult dragons require 80% greens in their diet. At the one-year mark we recommend a slow transition from the 80% protein/20% greens to the 80%   
  greens/20% protein, this will help with the possibility of shock to your dragons’ system.

***Staple Greens: Daily feeders! Always Feed Fresh!***

Mustard Greens Turnip Greens Collard Greens Parsley  
Cilantro/Coriander Basil Carnations Chives  
Clover Dandelion Greens Oregano Rose Petals  
Sage Thyme

**Do Not Feed**!

Spinach Kale Romaine Iceberg  
Sweet Butter

Anything with the word Lettuce is Nutritionally pointless as it is mostly water.

***Staple Vegetable: Daily Feeders! Always Feed Fresh!***

Acorn Squash Artichoke Heart Bell Peppers Bok Choy  
Butternut Squash Endive Yellow Squash Green Beans  
Okra Peas Pumpkin Sweet Potato  
Zucchini

***Fruits: Once Weekly Feeders! Always feed fresh! (feed in small amounts)***  
Apples Banana Blackberries Blueberries  
Figs Grapes Guava Mango  
Melons Peaches Raspberries Watermelon

**NEVER FEED ANY CITRUS TO YOUR DRAGON!!**