

# Rhino Iguana Care Guide

*Presented by Custom Creatures Pet Shop*

## Basic Info

Species: *Cyclura cornuta* (Rhinoceros Iguana)

Lifespan: 20-40+ years in captivity

Adult Size: 3-5 feet including tail, 10-20+ lbs

Temperament: Intelligent, calm, and can become very tame with regular handling

Best for: Experienced reptile keepers with large custom enclosures and long-term dedication

## Enclosure Setup

Tank Size:

- Babies: 75-120 gallon enclosure or 4x2x2 ft minimum
- Adults: Custom enclosures 6-10 ft long, 4-6 ft tall, and 3-4 ft deep
- Outdoor pens ideal in warm climates

Temperature & Heating:

- Basking area: 95-105°F
- Ambient daytime temp: 80-88°F
- Night: do not drop below 70-75°F for juveniles
- Use ceramic heat emitters or radiant panels as needed

Humidity:

- Maintain 50-70% humidity
- Mist daily or use a humidifier in dry environments
- Provide a large soaking area for hydration

Lighting:

- High-output UVB required (T5 HO 10.0 or Arcadia 12%)
- 12-14 hour day/night cycle
- Ensure basking ledge is within 12-18 inches of UVB bulb

Substrate:

- Coconut coir, organic topsoil, or bioactive substrate
- Minimum 4-6 inches for burrowing behaviors

#### Décor & Enrichment:

- Strong branches, ramps, basking shelves, rocks
- Include hides and visual barriers to reduce stress

## **Diet & Feeding**

#### Feeding Frequency:

- Feed daily

#### Diet:

- 80-90% dark leafy greens: collard, mustard, dandelion, turnip, escarole
- 10-15% veggies: squash, green beans, bell peppers
- Occasional fruits: berries, papaya, mango (1-2x/week max)
- No animal protein or insects - strictly herbivorous

#### Supplementation:

- Calcium without D3: 3-5x/week
- Multivitamin: 1x/week
- Cuttlebone or calcium dish in enclosure is recommended

#### Water & Hydration:

- Provide large water bowl or soaking tub
- Mist regularly, especially for hatchlings

## **Handling & Behavior**

#### Handling:

- Start slow and consistent - juveniles can be shy or defensive
- Always support the entire body
- Use gloves if needed early on (tail whips or defensive posturing)

#### Behavior to Expect:

- Diurnal and basking-prone

- May head bob or puff up when startled
- Very intelligent - can recognize caregivers and become leash-trained

## **Supplies Checklist**

- Large, tall enclosure (75+ gallons for babies, custom for adults)
- Basking bulbs, ceramic heater, and UVB fixture
- Strong climbing branches and shelves
- Humidifier or misting system
- Digital thermometer and hygrometer
- Leafy greens, vegetables, and supplements
- Large soaking bowl
- Safe, diggable substrate

## **Contact Us**

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We're here to help!