

# Cuban Knight Anole Care Guide

*Presented by Custom Creatures Pet Shop*

## Basic Info

Species: *Anolis equestris* (Cuban Knight Anole)

Lifespan: 8-12+ years in captivity

Adult Size: 13-20 inches including tail

Temperament: Territorial and defensive; best as a display animal

Best for: Intermediate to experienced keepers with arboreal reptile experience

## Enclosure Setup

Tank Size:

- Juveniles: 18x18x24 or larger
- Adults: Minimum 24x24x48 vertical terrarium
- Provide tall climbing space and secure screen lid

Temperature & Heating:

- Basking area: 90-95°F
- Ambient air temp: 78-85°F
- Night: can drop to 70-75°F
- Use basking bulb with thermostat control

Humidity:

- Maintain 60-80% humidity
- Mist 2-3 times daily or use a misting system
- Monitor with a digital hygrometer

Lighting:

- High-output UVB required (T5 HO 5.0-10.0 or Arcadia 6%)
- 12-14 hour day/night cycle
- UVB essential for calcium metabolism and bone health

Substrate:

- Coconut fiber, cypress mulch, or bioactive mix
- Maintain moisture without becoming soggy

Décor & Enrichment:

- Provide large branches, vines, live or fake plants
- Add cork bark and multiple elevated hides

## **Diet & Feeding**

Feeding Frequency:

- Juveniles: Feed daily
- Adults: Feed 3-5x per week

Diet:

- Primary: Crickets, dubia roaches, black soldier fly larvae
- Occasional: mealworms, hornworms, small anole-safe insects
- Fruit puree or Pangea gecko diet 1-2x/week as a treat

Supplementation:

- Calcium with D3: 2-3x/week
- Multivitamin: 1x/week
- Gut-load all insects 24 hours before feeding

Water & Hydration:

- Mist heavily for drinking from leaves and enclosure surfaces
- Optional drip system or small water dish

## **Handling & Behavior**

Handling:

- Not recommended - defensive and prone to biting
- Best kept as a display animal

Behavior to Expect:

- Diurnal and arboreal
- Will puff throat, gape mouth, or run when stressed

- Bold and curious but best enjoyed through observation

## **Supplies Checklist**

- Vertical terrarium (minimum 24x24x48 for adults)
- Basking and UVB lights with timers
- Thermometer and hygrometer
- Live or artificial foliage and large climbing branches
- Coconut fiber or mulch substrate
- Misting system or manual sprayer
- Insect feeder variety and supplements
- Optional drip system for hydration

## **Contact Us**

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We're here to help!