



Mourning Gecko Care Guide

Presented by Custom Creatures Pet Shop

Basic Info

Species: *Lepidodactylus lugubris* (Mourning Gecko)

Lifespan: 10-15 years in captivity

Adult Size: 3.5-4 inches

Temperament: Skittish and jumpy, not suitable for handling

Best for: Beginner to intermediate keepers, especially bioactive enthusiasts

Enclosure Setup

Tank Size:

- 5-10 gallon vertical tank for small groups
- Exo Terra 12x12x18 is ideal for 3-5 geckos
- Must be fully escape-proof - mourning geckos are tiny!

Temperature & Heating:

- Daytime: 75-82°F
- Night: Can drop to 70-72°F
- Use a low-watt ceramic heater or keep in a warm room

Humidity:

- Maintain 60-80% humidity
- Mist 1-2 times daily

- Good ventilation is important to prevent mold

Lighting:

- UVB not required but a low-level bulb (5.0) can help plant growth and vitamin D synthesis
- 12-hour day/night cycle recommended

Substrate:

- Coconut fiber, eco earth, or bioactive mix with leaf litter
- Helps maintain humidity and supports microfauna

Décor & Climbing Surfaces:

- Provide cork bark, vines, branches, live or fake plants
- Include small crevices and multiple hides at different levels

Diet & Feeding

Feeding Frequency:

- Feed every 2-3 days

Diet:

- Commercial gecko diet (Pangea or Repashy) as a staple
- Supplement with live insects like fruit flies, pinhead crickets, or springtails
- Insects must be gut-loaded and appropriately sized

Supplementation:

- Calcium with D3: 2x/week if feeding live insects
- Multivitamin: 1x/week if using live prey frequently
- Not needed if feeding only a balanced gecko diet

Water & Hydration:

- Mist daily for drinking from surfaces
- Water dish optional but can be included

Handling & Behavior

Handling:

- Not suitable for handling - extremely small and fast
- Best kept as a display or observation species

Behavior to Expect:

- Nocturnal and parthenogenetic (all females - reproduce asexually)
- Social and vocal - may chirp or squeak
- Active, curious, and fun to observe in groups

Supplies Checklist

- Small vertical terrarium (12x12x18 or similar)
- Escape-proof lid and tight seals
- Mist bottle or automatic mister
- Digital thermometer and hygrometer
- Gecko diet (Repashy or Pangea)
- Insect feeders (fruit flies, pinhead crickets)
- Calcium and multivitamin (if feeding insects)
- Cork bark, foliage, and climbing surfaces

Contact Us

Custom Creatures Pet Shop

2750 Bay Rd, Saginaw, MI 48603

Phone: (866) 797-4001

Email: support@thecustomcreatures.com

We're here to help!