



Hermann's Tortoise Care Guide

Presented by Custom Creatures Pet Shop

Basic Info

Species: *Testudo hermanni* (Hermann's Tortoise)

Lifespan: 50-100+ years

Adult Size: 6-10 inches

Temperament: Active, hardy, and generally friendly

Best for: Beginners to experienced keepers

Enclosure Setup

Tank Size:

- Babies: 40-gallon tortoise tub minimum
- Adults: 4x2 ft enclosure or larger (prefer tortoise tables)
- Outdoor pens recommended in warm seasons

Temperature & Heating:

- Basking area: 90-95°F
- Cool side: 70-75°F
- Night: 65-70°F minimum
- Use basking bulb and ceramic heat emitter as needed

Humidity:

- Babies: 50-70% with access to humid hide

- Adults: 40-60%
- Mist lightly and monitor with a hygrometer

Lighting:

- Full-spectrum UVB lighting required (T5 HO 10.0 or Arcadia 12%)
- Provide 12-14 hours of daylight exposure

Substrate:

- Organic topsoil, coconut coir, or cypress mulch
- At least 3-5 inches deep for digging
- Keep slightly moist, not soggy

Décor & Enrichment:

- Include hides, flat rocks, logs, and low ramps
- Space to walk and dig is important

Diet & Feeding

Feeding Frequency:

- Feed daily

Diet:

- Leafy greens: dandelion, collard, mustard, endive, escarole
- Flowers: hibiscus, rose, clover, nasturtium
- Occasional veggies: squash, cactus pad, carrot tops
- Avoid fruits and high-protein foods

Supplementation:

- Calcium without D3: 3x/week
- Multivitamin: 1x/week
- Provide a cuttlebone for additional calcium

Water & Hydration:

- Shallow water dish available at all times
- Soak babies 3-4 times/week in warm water for 15-20 minutes

Handling & Behavior

Handling:

- Tolerates gentle, infrequent handling
- Support the body fully and move slowly

Behavior to Expect:

- Diurnal and very active
- Enjoys basking, grazing, and digging
- May burrow or hide when cool or stressed

Supplies Checklist

- 40+ gallon tortoise tub or outdoor pen
- Basking bulb and UVB light fixture
- Digital thermometer and hygrometer
- Ceramic heat emitter (optional)
- Moisture-retaining substrate
- Fresh greens and edible flowers
- Water and soaking dish
- Calcium and multivitamin supplements

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!