

# Monkey Anole Care Guide

*Presented by Custom Creatures Pet Shop*

## Basic Info

Species: Anolis (Norops) equestris potior (Monkey Anole or Cuban Giant Anole subspecies)

Lifespan: 8-12 years

Adult Size: 12-18 inches including tail

Temperament: Arboreal and defensive - not ideal for handling

Best for: Intermediate to advanced keepers with arboreal reptile experience

## Enclosure Setup

Tank Size:

- Juveniles: 18x18x24 inches minimum
- Adults: 24x24x48 inches or larger
- Must be vertically oriented with secure screen lid

Temperature & Heating:

- Basking spot: 90-95°F
- Ambient daytime temp: 78-85°F
- Nighttime temp: 70-75°F
- Use basking bulb or ceramic heat emitter with thermostat

Humidity:

- Maintain 60-80% humidity
- Mist 2-3x daily or use an automated mister
- Use digital hygrometer to monitor

Lighting:

- High-output UVB required (T5 HO 5.0 or Arcadia 6%)
- 12-hour day/night cycle with full UVB exposure

Substrate:

- Coconut fiber, cypress mulch, or bioactive substrate

- Maintain lightly moist substrate without becoming soggy

#### Décor & Enrichment:

- Large branches, vines, cork bark, and live/fake plants
- Provide multiple climbing and hiding options

### **Diet & Feeding**

#### Feeding Frequency:

- Feed daily or every other day depending on age

#### Diet:

- Crickets, small dubia roaches, black soldier fly larvae, hornworms
- Optional: fruit puree or Pangea-style fruit/insect diet 1-2x/week
- Insects must be gut-loaded and appropriately sized

#### Supplementation:

- Calcium with D3: 2-3x/week
- Multivitamin: 1x/week
- Dust live insects before feeding

#### Water & Hydration:

- Mist enclosure to allow drinking from leaves and surfaces
- Optional shallow water dish or drip system

### **Handling & Behavior**

#### Handling:

- Not recommended - defensive and easily stressed
- Can bite or drop tail if handled frequently

#### Behavior to Expect:

- Diurnal and territorial
- Will display dewlap, gape, or run when threatened
- Bold and active when housed correctly

## **Supplies Checklist**

- Tall vertical terrarium (24x24x48 for adults)
- Basking and UVB lighting with digital timers
- Digital thermometer and hygrometer
- Substrate for humidity retention
- Misting system or spray bottle
- Insect feeders and gut-load supplies
- Calcium and multivitamin supplements
- Climbing decor and visual barriers

## **Contact Us**

Custom Creatures Pet Shop

2750 Bay Rd, Saginaw, MI 48603

Phone: (866) 797-4001

Email: [support@thecustomcreatures.com](mailto:support@thecustomcreatures.com)

We're here to help!