

## RACK SETUP INSTRUCTIONS – Family Reptiles

- 1) Secure thermostat probe directly to the top of the heat tape on the bottom shelf using aluminum foil tape or similar tape that will make a strong bond to the heat tape and won't peel off when it gets warm. The probe should be close to the corner nearest to the plug as to avoid being bumped by the bin.
- 2) Plug the heat tape into your thermostat and set your desired temperature.
- 3) With your bins completely empty, but still in the rack, allow the thermostat to run for approximately 2 hours. During that time you will want to periodically pull a bin open on each shelf to check the temperature of the portion of the bin that was sitting directly over the heat tape. This is best achieved with the use of a Temp Gun checking at 30 minute intervals. It's best to check the temp at the point the thermostat shuts off. This will give you a consistent reading while making adjustments. This will also be the time when the bin is at its hottest. Its normal for temps to fluctuate slightly as the thermostat goes on and off.
- 4) At the end of the 2 hours check the temperatures again and make adjustments to your thermostat up or down if the temperature in the bin is not where you want it to be. It is expected that the thermostat may read a few °F different from what it is in the bin.
- 5) If you made an adjustment to your thermostat after the two hours, repeat step 3 until you achieve your desired temperature.
- 6) Once your temperatures are good, place just enough substrate in the bin to cover the bottom and place your animal into its new home. Be careful not to make the substrate too thick as heat will not get through.

**NOTE: As heat tape was not originally developed for the reptile industry it is likely that there will be some variance in temperature from one shelf to another. Typically, this is no more than a few °F.**

**WARNING:**

**MAKE SURE YOUR ROOM TEMPERATURE IS NO MORE THAN 15-20°F LOWER THAN DESIRED TEMPERATURE.  
IF PROBLEM PERSISTS PLEASE CALL US AT (863)-581-2957 TO DISCUSS OTHER POSSIBLE ISSUES.**

### DO'S AND DON'TS

- **DO** check your thermostat probe regularly to make sure it remains secured. Every time you open and close the bin on the shelf with the probe you should be checking it!
- **DO** check your temperatures regularly to make sure they are still where you want them. This is especially important in cooler months when the room temperature may drop below 15-20°F lower than your desired temperature.
- **DON'T** place your rack in an uninsulated room, such as an attached garage, where the room temperature is going to fluctuate a lot.
- **DON'T** leave bins out of the rack for long periods of time. The rack will stay consistent with each bin in place no matter if reptiles are present or not. Empty slots result in heat escaping.

### Liability Release

**Family Reptiles, MB Rack Manufacture, Flex Watt, and associated thermostat/rack companies are NOT responsible for issues, errors, or mechanical breaks resulting in property damage, injury, or death of living animals/reptiles. The user of any racking system takes full responsibility for its use and safe operation. The rack system should be unplugged if any noticeable issue arises.**