

Jumping Spider Care Sheet (i4-i6)



Species:
Regal Jumping Spider
Phidippus regius



General Info:
Life span: ~3yrs
Adult size: ~1/2" to ~1"
Traits: Friendly, curious, mild-mannered, easy to care for, photogenic



Reasoning:
This information has been gathered through my extensive research and my experience in caring for hundreds of arachnids.

First and foremost, congratulations on embarking on your jumper journey. This is the basics of care recommended for your jumping spider aged i4-i6. Instead of birthdays, we count individual molts. Spiderlings (AKA 'slings') are hatched from eggs at i1 (instar #1).

Feeding

- Your little one has been eating flightless fruit flies and will continue to eat them for some time.
- Flightless fruit flies, micro mealies, teeny or freshly pre-killed small crickets
- 3-5 fruit flies, 2-3x weekly or every 2-4 days
- TIPS: As a rule of thumb, you don't want to feed them something any bigger than their abdomen. As they get bigger, so should their prey items. Uneaten prey may be harmful to your spider so use your discretion.

If your jumper isn't eating, it's okay. They may be getting ready to molt. Try again in a couple of days or switch up the menu. If the abdomen doesn't look too thin, they're fine! Wait 4-5 days after a molt to feed. They're soft and squishy after molting and need the time to harden up. In my experience, mealworms are a jumper's least favorite food item. They're the equivalent to the veggie platter at the birthday party.

Hydration

- Dehydration can be deadly. Very finely mist the enclosure to maintain humidity and allow your little one to drink up the miniscule droplets. Some dampen cotton balls, natural sponge, and swap those out to avoid molding.

Housing

- I sell small enclosures for your little spiders but if you choose to provide your own, you'll want to look for something with cross-ventilation, something that opens from the bottom. Jumpers like to utilize the top corners for their cozy web hammocks. Starting off, enclosures should be smaller so it is easier for them to catch their prey. They're still learning! After a few more molts, they'll need an upgrade. You'll want to choose something taller than it is wide, with cross ventilation, opening from the bottom, and ~4" x 4" x 7". Be sure to routinely tidy up their homes. Occasionally, go in with a cotton swab and tidy up their little house! They appreciate it.

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