

★ AQUATIC TURTLE ★ SUPPLIES CHECKLIST

We LOVE helping you select the things you need to keep your pet healthy and we want you to be successful.

THANK YOU for keeping it LOCAL and shopping at B&B Pet Stop.

Join our **FREE Rewards Club** program and get **FREE FOOD FASTER!**

10% OFF Complete Kit

Purchase ALL items from top portion of this Supplies Checklist and save 10% on everything! (excludes sale items)
10% kit discount also applies to regular-priced "suggestions" when you purchase all items from the top portion.

ITEM	PLU#	DESCRIPTION	PRICE
Aquarium			
Screen Top			
UVB Fixture			
UVB Bulb			
Reflector Dome			
Heat Light/Emitter			
Thermometer (x2)			
Dechlorinator			
Waste Degradar			
Basking Island			
Food			
SUGGESTIONS:			
Aquatic Turtle			
Gravel/Sand			
Decoration			
Driftwood			
Treats			

KREWE MEMBER: _____

This estimate is valid for 14 days from this date: ____ / ____ / ____

CHOOSE YOUR PET CAREFULLY!

14 Day 50/50 Pet Guarantee

NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, **WE** take half the responsibility and **YOU** take half the responsibility.

Bring the pet (and your receipt) back within **14 days** and get a **STORE CREDIT** for **HALF** the purchase price.



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The information in this handout is meant to provide basic information only.
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RED EARED SLIDER

Trachemys scripta elegans



EXPERIENCE LEVEL
Beginner



LIFE EXPECTANCY
30 years



ACTIVITY
Diurnal



HABITAT
Semi-aquatic



DIET
Omnivore

ADULT SIZE: 5 to 9 inches (male); 8-13 inches (female)

NATIVE TO: Rivers, swamps, ponds, and wetlands throughout southeastern United States

The following husbandry information is also applicable to other sliders, Painted Turtles (*Chrysemys*), and Sideneck Turtles (*Pelusius*).

GROUPING: Sliders are generally communal and can be kept together considering the size of the habitat

HABITAT: Minimum 48" x 18" for an adult. Sliders require a basking platform where they can get completely out of the water to bask and dry out. Ensure the basking platform is sturdy enough to hold their weight and not easily pushed over from underwater.

BEDDING: Aquarium gravel or aquarium sand

HABITAT CARE: Regular water changes are required. Add a submersible aquarium filter to help maintain water quality and reduce the number of water changes required. At least once a week, change about 25% of the aquarium water and clean the filter. Occasionally, remove any furniture or decorations and scrub them clean - never use chemicals or soap to clean anything belonging inside the aquarium.

LIGHTING: During the day, use a bright UVA bulb to simulate a sunny day; this will keep the habitat's ambient temperature up and promote a healthy metabolism. Also, use a full-spectrum UVB light during the day to regulate the synthesis of vitamin D3 for proper calcium metabolism. Leave both lights on for 12 hours a day. You may also need a ceramic heat emitter or nighttime reptile bulb to maintain the proper temperature at night. Ensure the fixtures are securely attached above the enclosure as not to fall into the water.

TEMPERATURE: Provide a thermal gradient across the enclosure with a range from 75°-80° on the cool end to a basking area of 90°-95° on the warm end. At night, the temperature can safely drop to 70°-75°. Place a thermometer on both ends of the enclosure to monitor temperatures. Use an aquarium heater to keep the water temperature at 75°. Avoid placing the enclosure in direct sunlight and drafty areas due to excessive temperature changes.

WATER: The depth of water should be greater than the length of your turtles shell but do not fill the aquarium completely. Sliders need to be fed in the water and tend to be messy eaters, for this reason, you may like to have a separate enclosure in which to feed your slider so you can discard that water after each feeding.

DIET: Variety helps ensure your slider gets all the nutrients it needs and provides mental stimulation. Juveniles require more animal protein where adults consume more plant matter. Feed them once a day and only as much as they will consume within a few minutes. Their diet should consist of a commercial pelleted diet made for aquatic turtles plus a variety of dark leafy greens such as mustard greens, turnip greens, dandelion greens, and truly aquatic plants. Offer a small amount of shredded or chopped vegetables like carrots, squash, and green beans. Also include live, freeze-dried, or frozen/thawed prey items such as crickets, worms, feeder fish, and shrimp. Fruits such as apple, berries, and melon as well as commercial turtle snacks may be offered as an occasional treat. Foods to avoid include iceberg lettuce and greens with high oxalates like spinach. Any food not consumed during feeding time should be netted out of the water and discarded immediately.

GROOMING: As they grow, sliders shed the top layer of their shells one scute at a time. Generally, the entire scute is shed intact. If your turtle's shell is flaking off in pieces, it may be a sign of illness. Never "help" remove the shedding scutes from your turtle as this is the equivalent of picking a scab.

HANDLING & TEMPERAMENT: Frequent handling of your slider is not recommended. Always wash your hands after handling your turtle.

EXERCISE: Any exercise they need can be attained by moving throughout their enclosure. For enrichment, you can change out and/or rearrange the furniture in their enclosure from time to time. Allowing your turtle to roam about on dry land is certainly okay but watch them closely; they are surprisingly fast!

VETERINARY CARE: You may wish to schedule a check-up for your new pet. Consult your vet and keep their number handy in case of an emergency.

