

Corn Snake



OVERVIEW



- Scientific Name: *Pantherophis guttatus*
- Origin: North America
- Ease of Care: Intermediate
- Potential Adult Size: 4ft to 6ft
- Life Span: Upwards of 20 years
- Behaviour: Crepuscular
- Diet: Carnivore
- Handling: Intermediate
- Humidity: 40% to 50%

TOP TIPS

- ✓ After feeding, let your snake digest its meal for 2 days before any handling.
- ✓ Offer a smaller or larger food item if your snake refuses to feed.
- ✓ If your snake is refusing its food when it's about to shed, wait until the snake has fully shed before offering food.
- ✓ A bad shed is normally a sign of something wrong in the snake's environment.
- ✓ Ensure vivarium vents are facing inwards. This should stop an inquisitive snake from escaping.

HOUSING

For a hatchling/Juvenile Corn Snake, the HabiStat Hatchling Snake Starter Kit (HSSK) has all that you need.

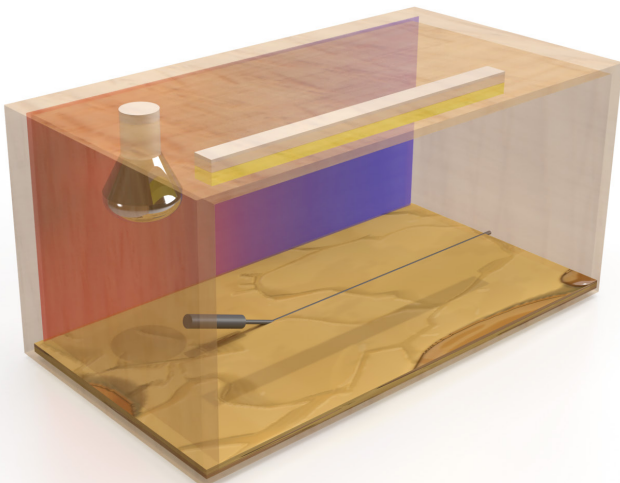
We recommend a Vivarium such as the HabiStat Standard Vivarium 36x24x24 (DVF3624) or the larger 48x24x24 (DVF4824) for your adult Corn Snake, or once it reaches 2ft in length.

EQUIPMENT NEEDED

- Housing: Vivarium
- Heating: Heat Bulb
- Lighting: UV Tube (Light Cycle: 12 hours of light)
- Substrate: HabiStat Jungle Bio, HabiStat Orchid Bark, Arcadia Earth Mix
- Water: HabiStat Sandstone Water Dish

ENVIRONMENT

Terrestrial Vivarium Setup



Heating

The HabiStat Snake Accessory Kit (HSSAK) provides all the light, heat, and safety elements for the enclosure in one handy kit.

Corn Snakes are crepuscular reptiles and require a suitable light and heat gradient in the enclosure to simulate a complete 24-hour period.

- Background Temp: 23-26°C (74-80°F)
- Basking Spot: 28-32°C (82-90°F)
- Night-Time Temp: 23-26°C (74-80°F)

Provide a warmer/hot area towards one side of the enclosure, using an overhead heat source to offer a heat gradient. Use an Arcadia Pro Ceramic Lamp Holder & Bracket (RADCHP) and a HabiStat

Heat Bulb (HBB100) running in conjunction with a HabiStat Dimming Thermostat (HTDW).

Dimming thermostats are designed to regulate temperatures using a thermostat probe (also known as a sensor). Correct placement of the probe is critical to avoid overheating and injury to the animal.

Maintain night-time temperatures using the Arcadia Ceramic Heater Bulb (RSBCH50) running through a HabiStat Pulse Thermostat (HPULS) if they are dropping below the recommended temperatures.

Check temperatures regularly, using a reliable dual thermometer and hygrometer to ensure that there are no extreme fluctuations.

Lighting

Fit the Arcadia ShadeDweller 7% (RARTP8S) on the inside roof of the vivarium. This will supply realistic UVB levels within the enclosure.

Ensure that it is fitted correctly and within the manufacturers recommended distances.

Additional lighting via the Arcadia JungleDawn LED Bar (RAJDP3) will add more visible light to aid your animal in its enclosure, regardless of species, but

also aid stimulating real plant/foliage growth within the enclosure.

Substrate and Decoration

Personal choice will dictate how you decorate your vivarium, but we recommend the following as a guide:

- Habistat Jungle Bio (HSJB10), Arcadia Earth Mix (RARE10), HabiStat Orchid Bark (HSO10F)
- The Habistat Tea Tree Branch (HSNTB), Habistat Grapevine (HSGV), HabiStat Cork Branch (HDB1) will offer enrichment within the enclosure.
- Artificial or live plants for decoration and to provide darker areas for the animal to hide away if it chooses.
- The use of HabiStat Sphagnum Moss (HSMS250) in the HabiStat Forest Hideout (HSNFHEL) will provide an essential humid retreat for the species.
- Water bowl - a suitably sized sturdy water bowl must be provided in the cool end of the enclosure.

DIET & WATER

Corn Snakes are a thawed Rodents and Poultry eating species.

Always provide a source of fresh water. The HabiStat Sandstone Water Dish (HRSSCL) will provide a safe and sturdy option for this necessity.

To maintain and regulate humidity within the enclosure, mist as required.

SUPPLEMENTATION

Corn Snakes do not require additional supplementation in the form of a calcium and multi-vitamin powder if the diet is kept varied.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- A Corn Snake will shed its skin every so often, depending on how big the snake is and how quickly its growing. As a rule, a young snake will shed every 3 to 6 weeks, and an older snake every 2 to 6 months.
- The best way to tell that your Snake is about to shed their skin, is to look at their general colour and eyes.
- The Corn Snake will appear duller than normal and may have a washed-out look. This will become more obvious as the Corn Snake nears shedding its skin.
- The snake's eyes will appear clouded at first and will eventually turn a bluey/grey colour. Normal colouration will return once the Corn Snake has shed its skin.

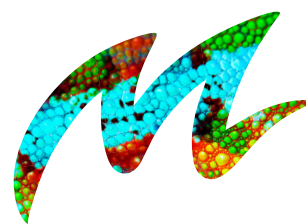
HEALTH & HYGIENE



We recommend the following cleaning routine to keep your Corn Snake healthy and happy:

	Water	Substrate	Enclosure
Daily	Change old water for fresh water	Spot clean	Check vents on enclosure are not blocked and allow air to pass through freely
Weekly	Disinfect water bowl or dish	Agitate substrate to prevent any bacterial build-up and remove any dirty bedding	Wipe down glass and walls with a reptile safe disinfectant
Monthly		Full substrate change	Wipe down inside the enclosure and disinfect décor with a reptile safe disinfectant

Always wash your hands, surfaces and equipment with warm water and disinfectant immediately before and after handling or feeding your Corn Snake, their food, enclosure and any other equipment.



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