

# Crested Gecko



## OVERVIEW



- Scientific Name: *Correlophus ciliatus*
- Origin: New Caledonia
- Ease of Care: Beginner
- Potential Adult Size: 6-7 inches
- Life Span: Up to 15 years
- Behaviour: Nocturnal
- Diet: Insectivore & specialist Crested Gecko food (occasionally)
- Handling: Beginner
- Humidity: Day 60-80%, 100% at night

## TOP TIPS

- ✓ Provide an Arboreal feeding ledge as a natural way to feed and hydrate
- ✓ Use a substrate that helps to maintain humidity
- ✓ Add live and artificial plants to provide shelter
- ✓ Ensure temperatures do not get too hot. Crested Geckos do not like too much heat
- ✓ Crested Geckos will drink water droplets after the tank has been sprayed

## HOUSING

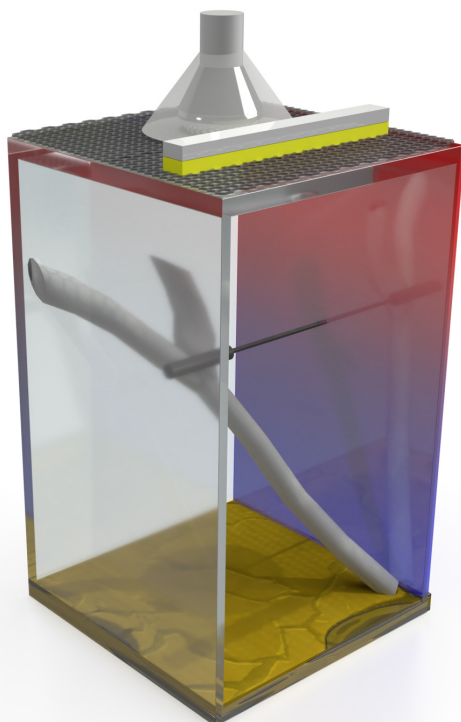
- The HabiStat Glass Terrarium 45 x 45 x 60cm (HGT4560) is ideal for this species throughout their life.
- If you already have the appropriately sized terrarium, the HabiStat Crested Gecko Accessory Kit (HSCGAK) will provide everything else you need in a one handy kit.

## EQUIPMENT NEEDED

- Housing: Terrarium
- Heating: Heat-Bulb
- Lighting: UV Tube (Light Cycle: 12 Hours of light)
- Substrate: HabiStat Jungle Bio (HSJB10), HabiStat Coir (HSCB) & HabiStat Moss (HSMS250)
- Water: HabiStat Arboreal Feeding Ledge (HSFLD) and Misting

## ENVIRONMENT

### Arboreal Terrarium Setup



### Heating

Crested Geckos are an ectothermic (cold-blooded) animal and take all their heat requirements from external sources.

- Background Temp: 22-26°C (72-80°F)
- HOT Spot: 26-29°C (79-84°F)
- Night-Time Temp: 20-26°C (68-79°F)

A heat-bulb in an Arcadia Reflector Clamp Lamp (RARTG75) run on through a HabiStat dimming thermostat (HTDW) is the ideal solution for providing this heat overhead when resting on the Terrarium mesh.

The HabiStat 75w heat bulb (HBB75) should be set up using a ceramic bulb holder such as the Arcadia Reflector Clamp Lamp with Ceramic Holder (RARTG75), which can be placed on the mesh roof of

the Terrarium.

The heat bulb should be used 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.

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

## Lighting

Use the Arcadia ShadeDweller Arboreal 2.4% (RARTP8SA), which has been specifically designed for forest dwelling reptiles.

Make sure the UV light is fitted correctly and that the Crested Gecko is not able to get too close.

## DIET & WATER

Ensure a Crested Gecko is offered appropriately sized insects and specially formulated Crested Gecko food.

Crested Geckos should be fed in the evening or at night as this is when they are most active.

The HabiStat Crested Gecko Diet (HSCDB) is perfect for Crested Geckos as they are keen fruit eaters and nectar drinkers. Available in a wide variety of flavours, this specially formulated Crested Gecko food should be offered once a week.

Always provide a source of fresh water using the HabiStat Arboreal Feeding Ledge (HSFLD).

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

Using the HabiStat Rainmaker (HSRM) will also aid with this task.

Use the HabiStat Humidifier (HDH01) during the early hours of the morning to provide 100% humidity overnight.

## Substrates and Decoration

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

- HabiStat Jungle Bio (HSJB10), or HabiStat Coir (HSCB) with HabiStat Moss (HSMS250) mixed in.
- HabiStat Cork Branch (HDB1), HabiStat Grapevine (HSGV) and HabiStat Tea Tree Branch (HSNTB) will offer shelter and enrichment within the enclosure.
- Live or artificial plant decoration will provide darker areas for the animal to use as shelter

## SUPPLEMENTATION

Crested Geckos need additional supplementation in the form of a calcium and multi-vitamin powder such as Arcadia Earth Pro-A (RAREP100) and Arcadia Earth Pro Calcium Mg (RAREPCM80). Follow the on-pack instructions.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Crested Geckos have the ability to drop their tail if they feel threatened or under attack. The tail will not grow back once it has been dropped.
- When a Crested Gecko sheds, the process begins by the Crested Gecko rubbing its face against an object to loosen the skin; the Crested Gecko will eat the skin as it is shed.
- Crested Geckos have a prehensile tail, which allows the tail to be used for gripping on to branches as well as providing stability when moving amongst tree canopies.

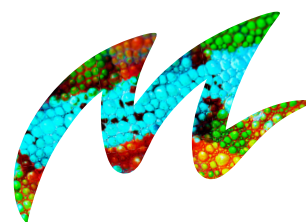
## HEALTH & HYGIENE



We recommend the following cleaning routine to keep your Crested Gecko 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 to allow any dirty bedding to be removed	Wipe down glass and walls with a reptile safe disinfectant
Monthly		Take out old substrate and replace with new substrate	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 Crested Gecko, their food, enclosure and any other equipment.



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