



Lone Mountain

••• ANIMAL HOSPITAL •••



Introduction to Anoles

Housing

Anoles can live comfortably both on their own or in groups. In general, house males individually or with two or more females

A 10 gallon (20in x 10in x 12in) tall tank is a minimum tank size for a group of two adult anoles and a 20 gallon tall tank (24in x 12in x 16in) as a minimum for three to four adult anoles (one male and three females)

Provide branches, logs, vines and other decor to allow the anole to climb

Live plants are beneficial and help to maintain humidity

Avoid sand or gravel substrates. Wood bark/chips, coconut fiber bedding or reptile turf/astro turf are more appropriate substrates

Ease of Care/Handling

As a rule, anoles are not amiable to handling; they are best kept in a terrarium/vivarium and observed from a distance

Anoles are flighty lizards whose first reaction to handling is to retreat or bite

Some anoles tame down nicely and may temporarily sit calmly in your hand

Distribution

Thrive in the United States, Cuba, Jamaica and other Caribbean Islands

Primarily semi arboreal

Wild anoles can be found in bushes, trees, woods, along rock walls and around houses

Sexing

Males typically grow larger than females, have enlarged post-anal pores and have a dewlap or "throat fan" that is used to display to females and rivals

Males of some species possess a dorsal crest, which is often used along with the dewlap in threatening displays

Size

Varies—most species are 4-9 inches, including tail

Weights vary depending on species ; 6– 52g

Diet

Carnivore—most anoles will consume grubs, crickets, cockroaches, spiders, moths or any arthropod which will fit in their mouths. Avoid beetles

Although anoles will go for bigger prey, ideally prey should not be larger than half the size of the anole's head

Very important to gut load prey items 24-28 hours before feeding. It is ideal to dust prey items with multi-vitamin product including Vitamin D3 & Calcium

A shallow water dish is appropriate

Temperature

Basking area: 85-90 F

Ambient air temperature: 75-80 F during the day, 65-75 F during the night

Temperatures should be monitored with at least 2 thermometers; one in the basking area and one on the "cool side" to measure ambient air temperature

Heat rocks are not recommended

Lighting

Requires access to ultraviolet B lighting (UVB lighting) for 12-16 hours per day

Change UVB bulbs every 6 months to ensure proper UVB ray emissions

Maintain appropriate temperature range with incandescent light bulbs or ceramic heat emitters of appropriate wattage

Humidity

Anoles come from humid tropical and sub-tropical environments

Humidity should be maintained at 60-80 % for most of the year

Appropriate substrates, frequent misting and drip systems will help to maintain proper humidity levels

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