



GREEN ANOLE

Anolis carolinensis

ORIGIN: Green anoles are native to the southeastern United States, from North Carolina to Florida and west through Louisiana to Texas. Their native environment is quite variable, ranging from wooded areas to neighborhoods.

SIZE: Green anoles reach an average adult length of 6 to 8 inches. Their tails typically account for at least half of their total length.

CAGING: Green anoles will thrive in a variety of plastic and glass cages that provide a warm, humid environment. A 10-gallon aquarium is large enough to house up to five adult green anoles.

SUBSTRATE: Green anoles are arboreal and typically do not spend time on the cage floor. A substrate that maintains humidity such as peat moss, orchid bark, or mulch is ideal and provides for live plants.

TEMPERATURE: Green anoles should be provided with a thermal gradient ranging from 80°F at one end of the cage to 95°F directly under the basking area. This is easily achieved by placing a heat lamp at one end of the enclosure.

LIGHT: Green anoles require full-spectrum lighting to properly synthesize calcium and other vitamins. This can be provided with a variety of commercial light bulbs made for reptiles.

WATER: Green anoles will not readily drink out of a water bowl. Instead, they should be misted daily and they will drink water off of leaves and branches. Misting will also help maintain a humidity level above 50%.

DIET: Green anoles feed on a variety of commercially available feeder insects including mealworms, crickets, and wax worms. Prior to feeding, insects should be dusted with a vitamin and mineral supplement powder for reptiles.

RECOMMENDED SUPPLIES

- Glass or plastic enclosure
- Substrate as detailed above
- UV emitting light
- Heat lamp
- Thermometer with probe to monitor temperature.
- Literature about anole husbandry
- Vitamin and mineral supplement
- Branches and vines for climbing
- Spray bottle

OPTIONAL ACCESSORIES

- Decorative cage background
- Night light for nighttime viewing
- Drip System to provide water
- Live or artificial plants

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NOTE: The information contained in this caresheet solely represents the opinions of the author. It is not intended as a complete guide to captive husbandry.