herpy

GECKOS

Tiger thick-toed gecko

Pachydactylus tigrinus

A small, sturdily built rock gecko with brown and cream crossbands reminiscent of a tiger's stripes. It lives in savanna and rocky terrain in southern Africa and is nocturnal. Little is known about its care, so the advice is based on habitat, climate and related species.

Family: Gekkonidae Former name: *Pachydactylus capensis tigrinus; Pachydactylus capensis rhodesianus*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**9-11 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**5-10 years**
Active	**At night**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal and rock-dwelling**
Habitat	**Savanna and rocky terrain**
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**40 × 30 × 30 cm** L × W × H for 2 adults
Temperature, day	**24-28 °C**
Basking spot	**30-33 °C**
Temperature, night	**18-22 °C**
Humidity	**30-50%**
UVB	**Optional** Ferguson zone 1
Diet	**Insects**
Kept	**Singly or in pairs**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Clutch size	**1-2 eggs**
Incubation	**55-75 days** at 26-30 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

CITES	**Not listed**
EU annex	**Not listed**
IUCN	**Least Concern (LC)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	Little is known about the care of *Pachydactylus tigrinus*.
TEMPERATURE	The daytime temperature should be 24-28 °C, and under a heat lamp or on a stone under the lamp 30-33 °C. At night the temperature should fall to 18-22 °C. There must always be a cool end so that the animal can choose.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	The species lives in dry to semi-arid terrain. Keep the humidity at about 30-50 %, and mist lightly now and then on the back wall in the evening so that the animal can drink droplets.
LIGHTING AND UVB	The species is nocturnal and stays in hiding by day. UVB is therefore not essential when the food is dusted with calcium and D3.
FEEDING	*Pachydactylus tigrinus* feeds on insects. Crickets, small dubia cockroaches, mealworms and locusts of a suitable size make a good staple. Prey should be smaller than the distance between the animal's eyes.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	The gecko is nervous and fast and is better suited to being watched than handled. Never grab the tail, which can be shed. The social life of the species is not documented.
NATIVE RANGE	Zimbabwe, South Africa, Botswana and Mozambique.