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FROGS

Giant Monkey Frog

Phyllomedusa bicolor

Phyllomedusa bicolor is one of the largest tree frogs in the world: a calm, wax-coated climber from the Amazon that walks slowly along branches instead of hopping. It is nocturnal, feeds on insects and needs a tall, airy enclosure with moderate humidity, not the wet rainforest air that most other tree frogs get.

Family: Phyllomedusidae Published 16 November 2026 **Mild skin toxins**

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**9-12 cm** snout-vent length
Lifespan	**10-15 years**
Active	**At night**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal**
Habitat	**Rainforest**
Skin toxins	**Mild** Wash your hands after contact and keep your fingers away from your eyes and mouth
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**45 × 45 × 60 cm** L × W × H for 2 adults
Temperature, day	**22-27 °C**
Temperature, night	**18-22 °C**
Humidity	**50-70%**
Water	**Water dish** depth 2-4 cm
UVB	**Optional**
Diet	**Insects**
Kept	**In pairs or one male with several females**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Development	**Tadpoles in water**
Egg-laying site	**On leaves over water**
Eggs per clutch	**600**
Hatching	**7-14 days** at 24 °C
Larval period	**80-100 days** from hatching to metamorphosis
Larval diet	**Algae/plants and complete diet**
Parental care	**None**

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

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

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	The frog uses height and needs a tall, well-ventilated enclosure. For two adult animals, a male and a female, 45 × 45 × 60 cm (length × width × height) is the minimum, and taller is better.
TEMPERATURE	By day the enclosure should be at 22-27 °C, and around 24 °C is ideal. At night the temperature may fall to 18-22 °C, and a drop of a few degrees does good.
HUMIDITY AND MISTING	Humidity should be moderate and not tropically wet. Adult animals thrive at 50-60 %, and 40-70 % is tolerated. Below 40 % there is a risk of desiccation, and above 70 % for a long time can cause respiratory infections.
WATER AND WATER QUALITY	Put a large but shallow water bowl on the floor, so that the frog can lie down and absorb water. The water depth should be 2-4 cm and never so deep that a small frog cannot sit with its head and upper body above water.
LIGHTING AND UVB	The plants and the day rhythm are the most important. Use an LED light or a tube suited to plants, 12 hours a day and darkness at night.
FEEDING	The frog is a nocturnal hunter that lies in wait and takes live insects that move. Adults are given crickets of a suitable size (3-5 weeks old), dubia roaches, silkworms, hornworms and waxworm larvae.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	*P. bicolor* is a calm frog that can sit still for hours, and it is rarely stressed by daylight.
NATIVE RANGE	Brazil, Colombia, Bolivia, Peru, Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana.