herpy

GECKOS

Tokay gecko

Gekko gecko

South-east Asia's large, loud-voiced climber with a blue-grey body, orange spots and a call that sounds like to-keh. *Gekko gecko* is impressive and intelligent, but also defensive and quick to bite, and it is not an animal for anyone who wants to hold their reptile in the hand.

Family: Gekkonidae Former name: *Lacerta gecko* Published 14 November 2026

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**25-35 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**10-20 years**
Active	**At night**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal and rock-dwelling**
Habitat	**Rainforest and rocky terrain**
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**60 × 60 × 120 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**26-29 °C**
Basking spot	**30-35 °C**
Temperature, night	**23-26 °C**
Humidity	**60-80%**
UVB	**Recommended** Ferguson zone 1
Diet	**Insects and vertebrates**
Kept	**Singly or in pairs**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Sexually mature	**12-36 months**
Clutch size	**2 eggs**
Clutches per year	**4-8**
Incubation	**60-180 days** at 25-30 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

CITES	**Appendix II**
EU annex	**Annex B**
IUCN	**Least Concern (LC)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE
An adult needs a tall enclosure of at least 60 × 60 × 120 cm (length × width × height), and an especially large male should have 90 × 60 × 120 cm.

TEMPERATURE
Gekko gecko likes it warm. By day the enclosure should be 26-29 °C with a warm spot under a lamp of 30-35 °C. Around 32 °C at the warm spot suits most animals.

HUMIDITY AND WATER
The humidity should be 60-80 %, measured in the middle of the enclosure. Mist thoroughly in the evening and lightly in the morning, so that the humidity rises at night and falls again during the day.

LIGHTING AND UVB
The species is nocturnal and can live without UVB when it receives D3 as a supplement, but a weak UVB light is recommended today, and it is especially valuable for breeding females.

FEEDING
Gekko gecko is an insectivore. The staple diet is crickets and dubia roaches, supplemented with locusts and now and then waxworms, hornworms or morio worms for variety.

BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING
Gekko gecko is fast, strong and defensive. It hisses, gapes and lunges when it feels threatened, and a bite can break the skin. Do not reach for it, and do not count on it becoming tame.

NATIVE RANGE
Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar (Burma), Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, Malaysia, China, Taiwan, Philippines, Indonesia and Timor-Leste.