

# Blue-Tongued Skink



## OVERVIEW



- Scientific Name: *Tiliqua* spp.
- Origin: Australia, New Guinea & Indonesia
- Ease of Care: Intermediate
- Potential Adult Size: 22 to 30 inches
- Life Span: 20 years
- Behaviour: Diurnal
- Diet: Omnivore
- Handling: Beginner

## TOP TIPS

- ✓ A Vivarium is best suited for Blue-Tongued Skinks
- ✓ Vary your Skinks food to keep it stimulated
- ✓ Use a sand scoop when spot cleaning

## HOUSING

Hatchling/Juvenile – HabiStat Standard Vivarium  
36x24x24" (HV3624)

Adult - HabiStat Standard Vivarium  
48x24x24" (HV4824)

## EQUIPMENT NEEDED

- Housing: Vivarium
- Heating: Heat Bulb
- Thermostat: Dimming Thermostat (High Range)
- Lighting: UV Tube (Light Cycle: 12 hours of light)
- Substrate: HabiStat Bearded Dragon Bedding, HabiStat Jungle Bio, Arcadia EarthMix
- Water: Water bowl

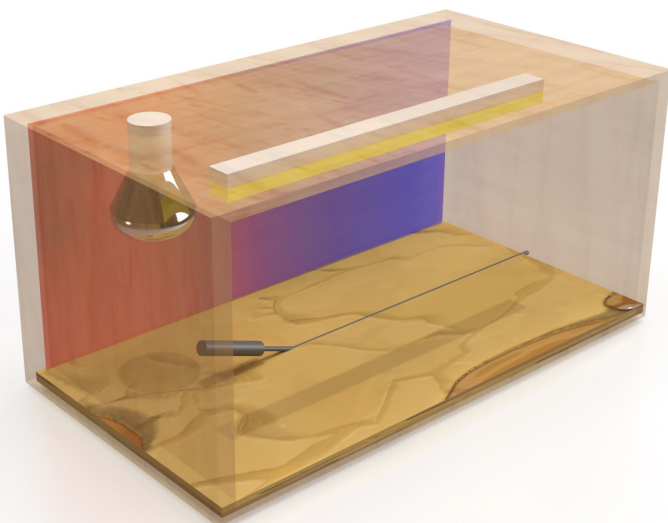
## RUNNING COSTS

- Average Cost: 37p Per Day
- Average kW per day: 1.315

Calculations are based on using the recommended timings, heating, and lighting provided throughout the care sheet, and the Electricity unit rate of 28p per kWh.

## ENVIRONMENT

### Vivarium Setup



### Enclosure Readings

- Hot Spot: 35°C-40°C (95°F -104°F) depending on specific Skink species
- Background Temp: 23°C-25°C (74°F-77°F)
- Night-Time Temp: 18°C-23°C (68°F-74°F)
- Humidity: 60%-70%
- UVI: 3-4

### Heating

Blue-Tongued Skinks are a diurnal species and require a suitable light and heat gradient in the enclosure to simulate a complete 24-hour period.

The HabiStat Bearded Dragon Accessory Kit (HSBDAK) provides all the light, heat, and safety elements for the enclosure in one handy kit.

Use the Arcadia Pro Ceramic Lamp Holder

& Bracket (RADCHP) with the HabiStat Heat Bulb (HBB100) running through the HabiStat Dimming Thermostat (HTDWHR).

Dimming thermostats are designed to regulate temperatures using a thermostat probe (also known as a sensor). Correct placement of the probe is critical to avoid overheating and injury to the animal.

Check temperatures regularly, using a reliable dual thermometer and hygrometer to ensure that there are no extreme fluctuations.

## Lighting

Fit the Arcadia Pro T5 UVB Kit, 12% (RARTP39R) or alternatively the Arcadia LumenIZE Pro T5 UVB 12% (RARLZ39R) to the inside roof of the vivarium.

Ensure that it is fitted correctly and within the manufactures recommended distances, providing a UVI of 3-4.

## DIET & WATER

Ensure a Blue-Tongued Skink has a varied diet, with a mixture of insects and Greens.

**Young/Juvenile** - A small bowl of Greens daily. Several appropriately sized feeders 2 to 3 times per week such as:

- Crickets – 3rd
- Locust – Small Hopper
- Calci Worms

**Adult** - A small bowl of Greens daily. Several appropriately sized feeders per week such as:

- Crickets – Standard
- Locust – 3rd Hopper
- Dubia Roaches – Medium

Offering Arcadia Omnigold (RAREPOG300) at any age once weekly as part of a varied diet is beneficial.

Always provide a source of fresh water. The HabiStat Sandstone Water Dish (HRSSCM) will provide a safe and sturdy option.

To maintain and regulate humidity within the enclosure, mist as required.

## Substrates and Decoration

Personal choice will dictate how you decorate your enclosure, but we recommend the following as a guide:

- Habistat Bearded Dragon Bedding (HSBDB10), HabiStat Jungle Bio (HSJB10), Arcadia EarthMix (RARE10)
- HabiStat Cork Branch (HDB1), HabiStat Grapevine (HSGV) and HabiStat Tea Tree Branch (HSNTB) will offer shelter and enrichment within the enclosure.
- Live or artificial plant decoration will provide darker areas for the animal to use as shelter

## SUPPLEMENTATION

Following a supplementation regime that involves calcium and multivitamin powders such as HabiStat Pure Calcium (HMC40), HabiStat Reptavite (HMRV40), HabiStat Repton (HMR40) and Arcadia Earth Pro-A (RAREP100) will be beneficial to the health and wellbeing of the animal.

## ADDITIONAL INFO

- Being a semi-fossorial species, a deep substrate to burrow in is essential.
- This is a species that consumes both insects and vegetation; variety is vital to their diet.

## HEALTH & HYGIENE



We recommend the following cleaning routine to keep your animal healthy and happy:

	Water	Substrate	Enclosure
Daily	Change old water for fresh water	Spot clean	Check vents on enclosure are not blocked and allow air to pass through freely
Weekly	Disinfect water bowl or dish	Agitate substrate to prevent any bacterial build-up and remove any dirty bedding	Wipe down glass and walls with a reptile safe disinfectant
Monthly		Take out old substrate and replace with new substrate	Wipe down inside the enclosure and disinfect décor with a reptile safe disinfectant

Always wash your hands, surfaces and equipment with warm water and disinfectant immediately before and after handling or feeding your animal, their food, enclosure and any other equipment using HabiStat Anti-Bac Spray (HABS) for any surface and HabiStat Hand Sanitiser (HABG) for hand hygiene.

## HANDLING & CARE



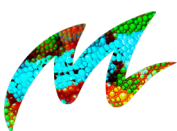
While this species is generally placid and will tolerate gentle handling, this can at times be very stressful for the animal, so any handling should only be done in short periods.

Things to look out for that will need veterinary assistance:

- Skin shedding problems (retained shed)
- Eyes discolouration or not opening
- Going off food
- Loose bowel movements

Should your animal display any signs of distress, changes in regular behaviour, or anything visually different, please seek help from your Reptile Veterinarian.

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# DATA MONITORING



Blue-Tongued Skink *Tiliqua spp.* Complete this Sheet at the same time every day e.g. 12pm

	Hotspot Temp 35°C-40°C (95°F-104°F)	Background Temp 23°C-25°C (74°F-77°F)	Humidity Day 60%-70%	UVI 3-4	Night Time Temp 18°C-23°C (68°F-74°F)	Feeding
Monday						
Tuesday						
Wednesday						
Thursday						
Friday						
Saturday						
Sunday						