

# Burmese Python

*Python molurus biuittatus*

## CARE SHEET



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**Average Size** 12 - 20 feet long      **Average Life Span** 20 - 30 years

**Diet** Burmese Pythons are strict carnivores. They can eat either frozen or live prey items. Babies will start with adult mice. A full grown adult will eat large rabbits to goats. When feeding frozen prey, be sure the prey is thawed thoroughly. When feeding live prey, be sure to monitor the feeding to prevent the prey from attacking the snake.

**Feeding** Feed babies 1 - 2 times a week. At 2 - 3 months of age you can reduce to once weekly. Adults can eat weekly, although some keepers feed every other week. The prey size should equal the largest part of the snakes body in girth.

**Housing** Burmese Pythons may be kept alone or in groups. Breeders generally keep Burmese Pythons in separate enclosures until breeding time. At that point, the breeder will house the snakes together.

**Size** - An adult must have a minimum cage size of 8ft Long x 4ft Deep x 2ft High, although many keepers prefer a larger cage. Babies can start in 20 - 30 gallon tanks.

**Substrate** - Shredded aspen by ZooMed is a perfect substrate. Burmese Pythons love to burrow. Shredded aspen provides a fluffy substrate easy for burrowing and cleaning. Provide 3-6 inches of substrate.

**Habitat** - Burmese Pythons come from South East Asia and Indonesia. In the wild they are found in heavily forested tropical areas. Keep the cage warm and humid and provide plenty of places for hiding.

**Temperature** - Burmese Pythons require a basking spot of 90° - 95°F. The cool end of the tank can be as cool as 75° - 80°F. Proper temperature is extremely important with this species. If a Burmese Python becomes too cool for an extended period of time, they will quickly develop respiratory infections.

**Watering** - Provide fresh drinking water daily. Burmese Pythons like to soak their body in water. Provide a bowl of water large enough so that the snake can fully submerge its body.

**Lighting** - Since this is a nocturnal species, it requires only one light bulb. This is the heat lamp which also emits UVA. There is no current proof that the animal requires UVB light, although some keepers prefer to provide UVB.