



Desert Ground Tarantulas

Various Species

Care Sheet

Average Size

Depends on Species

Average Lifespan

Various

Diet

Tarantulas eat a variety of live insects including crickets, mealworms, waxworms, and cockroaches. Vertebrates such as baby mice can be fed as well but should be done so in moderation. Never use a mouse that is large enough to bite or attack the tarantula.

Feeding

Feed your tarantula 3-6 crickets once every week. Never feed your tarantula during a molt.

Housing

Habitat - Being from arid/semi-arid environments low humidity is recommended. Consult your local store for specifics regarding your species.

Size - Tank size will vary depending on the species and size of the tarantula. Consult your local specialty store regarding a specific cage for your specific need. Secure tops are recommended as some species can climb glass.

Substrate - Sand or dry coconut fiber are perfectly fine substrates. Some keepers recommend using a 50/50 blend of sand and coconut fiber.

Temperature - Temperatures between 70-75°F are perfect for your tarantula. Any temperatures above 80°F can lead to death. Temperatures below 65°F can also be problematic and should be corrected using low watt lighting or heating pads.

Watering - For tarantulas smaller than 1.5 inches, a very small bowl or cap of fresh water will suffice. For larger tarantulas of 3 inches or more, a larger bowl or invertebrate water dish will be adequate.

Lighting - Tarantulas do not need UVB or light sources. However, lighting maybe required for the maintaining of live plants and proper day/night cycles.

Molting - Molts will generally occur in a webbed burrow with the tarantula upside down. Feeding should be put off for at least a week after a molt as the fangs and exoskeleton will still be soft and damageable by prey. During molting a light mist of the cage is suggested as temporarily higher humidity levels can help the molting process.



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