


 6-8 years

 2-6 feet

 Beginner

 75-85° F

 Mice



Corn snakes are one of the most popular pet snakes. They have hundreds of beautiful colors and patterns, are incredibly easy to care for, and extremely docile in nature. The size of mature corn snakes is just right; big enough and hardy enough to accept regular handling, yet not too large to intimidate a beginner. These guidelines are the basic necessities for your new pet. Please do your research and consult your veterinarian for further guidance.

#### TANK SET UP

Corn snakes must have a well-ventilated home, with space to roam and a place to hide. A 20 gallon terrarium with a screen mesh top works well. Snakes are escape artists, so make sure the top is secure at all times.

#### BEDDING

Most corn snake breeders and keepers use Aspen bedding, as it is soft and absorbent. Reptile carpet is also an option, but the snakes tend to hide under it.

#### TEMPERATURE

Room temperatures in the 70's are fine for a corn snake, with a warm side of 85° F. A moist hide with moss, where the snake can lay when ready to shed, is always a good idea to have. Never spray the entire cage and aspen, as it will mold with the humidity.

#### LIGHTING

No special lighting requirements are necessary for corn snakes, however, as with all living things, they need a day/night cycle. A blue day bulb, or even the cage in front of a window is fine, as long as the temperatures inside the cage do not overheat. (Be aware, temperatures can rise quickly.)

#### HUMIDITY

The ideal humidity level for corn snakes is moderate, between 40%-60%. This is reached with a water bowl and dish of moss in the habitat. During shed cycles, you will want to soak the corn snake in lukewarm water once or twice a week, to encourage hydration and a good shed.

#### FEEDING

Corn snakes are normally very good eaters, and most do not need any prodding when it's meal time. Corn snakes thrive on live or frozen/thawed mice. Choose the size of the rodent depending on the size of the snake. Normally the corn snake will eat once every 7-10 days. **\*\*\*Snakes being fed live rodents must be monitored closely, until the rodent is no longer a threat to the snake. A live mouse or rat can cause considerable damage to a snake if left unattended.**

#### CLEANING

Snakes are very easy to take care of. They leave messes in their tanks several days after they have eaten and digested their meals. Thoroughly clean the tank, replace soiled bedding, and wash all dishes and accessories.