



## Emerald Swift Care Guide

**Species Name:**

*Sceloporus malachiticus*

**Adult size:**

10-15-cm

**Lifespan:**

5-10 Years

**Breeding Age:**

1-2 Years



Emerald swifts, *Sceloporus malachiticus*, are strikingly vibrant lizards native to Central America. They are known for their brilliant green colouration, which provides excellent camouflage in their forest habitats. Males display more vivid colours than females, often exhibiting blue patches on their bellies. Emerald swifts are diurnal, active during the day, and are adept climbers, frequently found on trees and rocks. Their diet mainly consists of insects.

### **Housing:**

Enclosure Size: We recommend a 45x45x60 glass terrarium, though larger options are preferable.

Social Dynamics: You can house Emerald swifts together, and ensure you have the appropriate sex ratios to avoid fighting (1:2).

Quarantine Procedure: Isolate new swifts in a separate room for at least 3 months, using a properly set-up enclosure or a modified tub.

### **Lighting:**

UVB Requirement: Emerald swifts benefit from UVB lighting for their overall health and well-being. A UVB Index of 10-12% is ideal.

### **Heating:**

Temperature Range: Maintain an ambient temperature of 21-26°C, with a basking spot not exceeding 31°C.

Heating Methods: Overhead heating, such as halogen bulbs, is recommended. Avoid under-tank heating or coloured bulbs.

### **Humidity:**

Ideal Levels: Maintain humidity between 60-80%, allowing it to fluctuate naturally between day and night.

Humidity Management: Regular misting, incorporating a humid hide, and utilising live plants help maintain appropriate humidity levels.

### **Substrate:**

Emerald swifts will benefit from a substrate which retains humidity well such as bark, soil, or bio-active forest substrates.

### **Cleaning and Maintenance:**

Regular disinfection of the enclosure and accessories is crucial for maintaining hygiene and preventing disease transmission.

Replace the substrate and clean the enclosure thoroughly on a routine basis.

### **Enrichment:**

Encourage natural behaviours by providing branches, vines, ledges, and live or artificial plants.

Introduce variety by rearranging the enclosure or offering scatter feeding.

### **Feeding:**

Emerald Swifts are insectivores and should primarily be fed appropriately sized insects such as roaches, crickets, or mealworms.

Supplement their diet with calcium and multivitamin supplements as per recommended schedules.



### **Handling and Interaction:**

Emerald Swifts are best left undisturbed, but interaction can include hand-feeding or supervised exploration outside the enclosure.

By adhering to this care guide, you can create a suitable environment for your Emerald Swifts, promoting their health, longevity, and overall well-being.