



Major Skink Care Sheet

Species Name:

Bellatorias frerei

Adult Size:

40cm

Lifespan:

15-20 years

Breeding Age:

2 years



The major skink is a robust reptile indigenous to Australia. Sporting a sleek, elongated body, these creatures thrive in diverse habitats, from forests to rocky outcrops, with a diet comprising insects and occasionally small vertebrates. Major skinks are known for their social behaviour, often forming colonies within rocky crevices or burrows. Their thick, scaly skin provides protection against predators and environmental hazards. Enthusiasts find these skinks captivating due to their unique physiology and interactive nature, making them popular subjects for reptile enthusiasts and researchers alike.

Housing:

Enclosure: A 4ft vivarium is ideal for your Major Skink. The Maxi sizes provide extra depth for a deep layer of substrate, as keen burrowers your Skink will appreciate this.

Substrate: Using a substrate mix that allows the skink to burrow is important. A mix of coir and orchid bark is ideal and mimic their natural environment.

Temperature:

Maintain a basking spot temperature of 35-40°C.

Provide a gradient, with the cooler side around 27-30°C.

Use a heat source like a basking light and a heat mat for heating.

Night time temperatures can drop to 15-23°C.

Lighting:

Provide a UVB light source (6-12%) for at least 10-12 hours a day to support calcium metabolism and overall health.

Diet:

Feeding: Offer a varied diet of insects. (Locusts, crickets, snails, and worms)

Supplements: Dust insects with calcium and vitamin supplements 2-3 times a week.



Humidity and Hydration:

A humidity of 50-70% should be maintained.

Provide a shallow dish for drinking water. Mist the enclosure occasionally to maintain humidity levels and aid in shedding.

Enrichment and Handling:

Place hiding spots, rocks, and branches for climbing to create a stimulating environment.

Provide a secure hide for them to retreat and feel safe.

Handle your Skink gently and regularly to foster trust, but be mindful of their stress levels.

Health Considerations:

Regularly monitor for signs of illness, such as lethargy, changes in appetite, or difficulty shedding.

Quarantine new reptiles before introducing them to existing enclosures.

Remember that the care requirements for Major Skinks may vary slightly based on individual needs, so observe your reptile's behaviour and make adjustments accordingly. Always prioritize the well-being and health of your pet by providing a well-maintained and enriched environment.