

Berber Skink

(Eumeces schneiderii)



Country of Origin	North Africa & Egypt
Average Size	12 – 16"
Temperament	Very active with large appetite
Food Source	Livefood, Fruit
Experience Level	Beginner

The berber skink is a medium size skink from North Africa and Egypt that is hardy, intelligent and popular. This is a very agile and active lizard, which is colourful and attractive. They tame down well with handling.

Due to the size and activity levels of this lizard, they have a large appetite and use up a great deal of energy in running and digging. They will eat all livefood, including crickets, hoppers, waxworms, mealworms, earthworms and snails. Their natural diet will also consist of some fruit, such as peaches and bananas, or any other soft fruit. Adults may also take the occasional pinkie mouse as a treat. Although these can eat commercial meat products such as dog food, it is recommended that a natural diet of live insects supplemented with fruit be maintained. Calcium & Vitamins should be added to the diet.

A three foot tank is adequate for a pair of these lizards. They enjoy burrowing and digging and a dry substrate such as bark chippings or sand should be used. Rocks or branches should be provided for climbing, and ample hiding places such as caves or cork bark. Temperatures should be around 85F on the hot side, and 75-80 on the cool side. Temperatures can drop to the low 70s at night. UVB lighting is required and should be cycled at least 8-10 hours a day. Overnight heating can be provided either via a heat mat, or an infra red bulb.

These lizards do well in pairs and are reported to mate for life, and live with their mate throughout the year in the wild. Breeding can be quite aggressive, and unlike many skinks, these are egg layers. The pair will remain with the eggs and incubate them themselves.

With regular handling this lizard can be very tame and handleable, and are rumoured to be very intelligent, with reports of them being trained to use hamster wheels!

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