



Blood Python Care Sheet:

Species Name:

Python brongersmai

Adult size:

4-6ft

Lifespan:

25 Years

Breeding Age:

2-3 years



Blood pythons (*Python brongersmai*) are a species of short-tailed python native to Southeast Asia, particularly in Malaysia, Thailand, and Indonesia. They are known for their thick, muscular bodies and vibrant colouration, which can range from deep reds and oranges to yellowish hues. Blood pythons typically grow to about 4-6 feet in length, with females generally larger than males. Their diet consists mainly of small mammals and birds. These snakes are best suited to experienced reptile keepers due to their sometimes defensive temperament, but with proper care and experience, they can become more manageable and make strikingly beautiful pets.

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Housing:

Enclosure: Use a secure, escape-proof enclosure with a secure lid and suitably ventilated to control humidity.

Size: A minimum enclosure size for an adult Blood Python should be 4ft. A larger enclosure is recommended for a more comfortable environment.

Substrate: Provide a substrate like bark chips or coconut coir for humidity retention.

Temperature and Lighting:

Temperature Gradient: Maintain a temperature gradient in the enclosure. The warm side should be around 30-32°C, while the cool side should be 25°C.

Heating: Use an under-tank heating pad, ceramic heat emitter or heat tape to create a warm spot. A thermostat is essential to regulate the temperature.

Lighting: Blood Pythons do not require special lighting, but a day/night cycle should be maintained. A simple ambient room light is usually sufficient.

Humidity:

Humidity Level: Keep the humidity level between 60-70%. Increase it slightly to aid with shedding.

Misting: Provide a water bowl and mist the enclosure as needed to maintain humidity. Ensure that the substrate remains dry.

Feeding:

Diet: Feed your Python appropriately sized prey items. For juveniles, start with appropriately sized mice, and as they grow, transition to rats.

Feeding Schedule: Feed juveniles every 5-7 days, while adults can be fed every 10-14 days. Adjust the schedule based on the individual snake's metabolism.

Prey Size: Offer prey items that are about the same width as the snake's widest part.



Health and Handling:

Regular Check-ups: Monitor your snake for signs of illness, such as respiratory issues or changes in behaviour. If any concerns arise, consult a reptile veterinarian.

Handling: Handle your Blood Python gently and with confidence. They can be defensive.

Enrichment:

Hide Boxes: Provide multiple hide boxes on both the warm and cool sides of the enclosure.

Branches and Climbing: Include branches or climbing structures for exercise and mental stimulation.

Environmental Variation: Occasionally rearrange the enclosure layout to provide environmental enrichment.

General Tips:

Cleanliness: Keep the enclosure clean by removing waste regularly and disinfecting as needed.

Research: Stay informed about the specific needs and behaviours of Blood Pythons to ensure their well-being.

Remember that each snake is an individual, and adjustments may be necessary based on your snake's specific requirements and preferences. Always consult with a reptile veterinarian for personalised advice.