

Chapter 1 : Burmese Python Care Sheet | Exotic Reptiles

Burmese Python (Python molurus bivittatus) Burmese Pythons, because of their docile nature and undemanding requirements, are among the most suitable of the large snakes as captive animals.

Despite their seemingly docile nature at most times their sheer size and unpredictability make them extremely dangerous for the inexperienced. Even for the experienced, the size makes them difficult to own. Housing As with all snakes housing is one of the most important parts of your pets happiness. With a Burmese Python and their size custom housing is the only option. A good size tank that will house your Burm would be 72"w x 36" x 36"t. Your cage need to be solid as their strength has been known to crack plexiglas and shatter glass. Hardware cloth stapled into the wood with a pneumatic stapler is the way to go. Once you have your cage set up add logs as they will climb around when young. You can use paper towels, newspaper, astroturf or purchase Reptile Bedding at your local pet store but this can get a bit pricy. My recommendation would be Cypress Mulch. Cypress Mulch looks the best in my opinion and allows you to spot clean soiled areas as opposed to totally replacing the bedding. You do however need to completely replace bedding at least every three months to avoid mites and other insect problems. Lighting Lighting is very important. You must be able to allow you Ball to experience both day and night. Heating Proper heat is a must. The temperature in the cage should be kept between 80 and 85F with a basking area of about 90F. Basking area can be achieved with a heat rock or overhead ceramic heat source recommended. Keep in mind when using a heat rock you must cover the rock with a towel as there is a potential for thermal burns. Never allow the temperature to drop below 73F. This can be achieved in a number of ways such as a reptile fogger or even easier spraying you cage 2 to 3 times a week with water. Spray the bedding and the walls. The moisture combined with the heat source will increase the humidity and assist the snake in shedding and its overall well being. Allow your snake to acclimate to its new surroundings for about two weeks. After two years or so you will begin to feed rabbits or chickens 2 or 3 times a month. Snakes will continue to eat if you introduce food but will become obese and unhealthy. There are numerous opinions as to feeding live or pre-killed food. I prefer live food as it is fun to watch, however you must be aware that the food you introduce does have teeth and sharp claws and can harm your snake. Not much of a chance of it killing your snake but scratches and scars will occur. Never feed your snake in the same cage it lives. It will start to identify the opening of the cage with feeding time and make it harder to take it out of the cage. NEVER feed wild prey to your snake as they may contain parasites and other diseases. This water will be used for both drinking and soaking so make sure that your snake can completely fit in the bowl without knocking it over. Soaking in the water assists in molting shedding Handling Handle your Burmese Python as often as possible especially when young. This will ensure as your Burm gets older you will still be able to enjoy handling it. When fully grown it is recommended that you never handle your snake while alone or allow young children to handle without close adult supervision. This is not the snakes fault. Burmese Pythons can make great pets but be smart. Now that you have the basics, enjoy your Burmese Python as my family and I have enjoyed ours.

Chapter 2 : Ball Python for sale Pie Ball Pythons for sale online Ball python breeders

The most important consideration when choosing a Burmese python is whether or not you have the time, space and patience to care for it. Many owners become overwhelmed, resulting in captive-bred pythons being released into the wild (which is illegal in most areas for obvious reasons).

Do you really want a snake that may grow more than 20 feet long or weigh pounds, urinate and defecate like a horse, will live more than 25 years and for whom you will have to kill mice, rats and, eventually, rabbits no chickens any more due to the ever increasing rate of Salmonella in the food industry? Take a look at the animal classifieds - they always have sale ads for big pythons. The local herpetology societies and reptile veterinarians always have big pythons for whom they are trying to find homes. Burms are increasingly being abandoned at vets and animal shelters and are being euthanized for lack of proper homes for them. You have to interact with them constantly to keep them tame - do you want a hungry, cranky pound, 12 foot snake mistaking your face for prey? Who is going to help you clean its enclosure? No matter how much they love you, there are some things a mother, and your friends, will not do! Owning a giant snake is not cool - it is a major, long-term, frequently very expensive responsibility. Not only that, but even the nicest, gentlest of burms can become killers, even when not very large While Burmese are being captive bred in the U. All the giant pythons including the Indian, African Rock and Reticulated pythons have historically been slaughtered to supply the international fashion industry with exotic skins. The exportation of young snakes for the pet trade and for their blood and gall as used in folk medicine has put additional pressures on the wild populations that cannot be sustained. If you must buy a Burmese, buy a captive-born animal. These diurnal rainforest dwellers range from areas of lush vegetation lining the river banks up to the montane forests. Equally at home on the ground and in trees, they are also excellent swimmers, and always enjoy a nice, long soak in warm water, especially just before they are ready to shed. In the wild, snakes do not eat every day, and are not always successful in capturing every prey animal at whom they strike. Captive snake owners generally do not understand this and so it is all too common to see obese snakes in captivity. If they are lucky enough to eat, they spend the rest of the afternoon, and the next several days or weeks, keeping warm enough to digest their meal. Burmese breed in the early spring. Females lay their eggs in March or April; their clutches range from eggs. Females encircle their eggs, remaining with them from the time they are laid until they hatch; during this time, they will not leave the eggs and will not eat. While incubating, the females muscles twitch; these tremors apparently enable the female to raise the ambient temperature around the eggs several degrees. Once the hatchlings cut their way out of their eggs, they are on their own. Burmese pythons, like all pythons and boas, devour a variety of prey in the wild - amphibians, lizards, other snakes, birds and mammals. In captivity, they should be fed pre-killed mice, rats, and rabbits. You can buy the prey at pet stores and from private breeders and suppliers to the herp trade; these animals have been specially raised and are clean, healthy and well-nourished, and you can always find a source who uses humane methods of euthanasia. If you live in a more rural area, you may be able to find free-range chickens; store- and hatchery-bought chicks should be avoided due to the problem with Salmonella. Under no circumstances should you feed your snakes wild-caught prey items. Wild rodents and other animals carry a variety of parasites and bacteria for which your snakes have no immunity. If you cannot afford to buy the proper food, you should not buy the snake. Selecting Your Burmese Python Choose an animal that has clear firm skin, a rounded body shape, clean vent, clear eyes and that actively flicks its tongue around when handled. When held, the snake should grip you gently but firmly when moving around. It should be alert to its surroundings. All young snakes are food for other, larger snakes, birds, lizards and mammalian predators so your hatchling may be a bit nervous at first but should settle down quickly. Like all pythons and boas, Burmese have anal spurs. These single claws appearing on either side of the vent are the vestigial remains of the hind legs snakes lost during their evolution from lizard to snake millions of years ago. Males have longer spurs than do the females, and have tails that are wider at the base tail-end of the vent ; otherwise, there is little difference in temperament between the two sexes. It is always fatal in pythons. Unfortunately, the lust to sell has overcome common sense in private

breeders as well as pet stores and wholesalers, and an increasing number of boas and pythons are being sold who are infected with this virus. ALWAYS spend a considerable amount of time observing boids before you buy them, especially at pet stores. ALWAYS observe strict quarantine procedures when bringing in a new boid into your house if you already have other boids. IBD may take several months to manifest itself. Owners have reported their new snakes showing signs as little as one month after acquiring hatchlings to well over one year after acquiring a new boid. ALWAYS have boids who are not acting well loss of appetite, regurgitating meals, mouthrot, respiratory infection, contorted body positions, stargazing seen by a reptile vet as soon as possibly after symptoms are noticed. Warn the vet before coming in that it may be IBD so they may take precautions to reduce exposure to other boids who may be in their office at that time. You may unwittingly spread it by handling other snakes without first thoroughly washing your hands. Viruses are airborne - think twice about taking your snakes to places where they will encounter snakes belonging to people who may not be taking proper precautions. Getting Started Build or purchase a strong snake-proof enclosure. All snakes are escape artists; Burmese are especially powerful when it comes to breaking out. A good starter tank for a hatchling is a 55 gallon tank. After the first couple of years and some bigger commercially available enclosures, you will have to build your own enclosure out of wood and glass or Plexiglas. Some people partition off a large part of a room or convert a walk-in closet into a suitable Burmese "tank". Be prepared - giant snakes need lots of room, not the least of which is room enough for you to get in there and clean it out! Remember that your snake will grow rapidly, even when fed conservatively, so you must always buy or build an enclosure much bigger than the present size of your Burmese. Suitable substrate Use paper towels, butcher paper or unprinted newsprint at first. These are easily and quickly removed and replaced when soiled and will allow you to better monitor for the presence of mites and the condition of the feces. Once the animal is established, you can use decorative ground cover such as commercially prepared shredded cypress or fir bark; do not use orchid bark. Pine, cedar and redwood shavings should not be used as they can become lodged in the mouth while eating, and due to the oils most especially in any cedar product, may cause respiratory infections and other problems. The shavings must be monitored closely and all soiled and wet shavings pulled out immediately to prevent bacteria and fungus growths. The utilitarian approach is to use inexpensive AstroTurf™ and linoleum. Extra pieces of AstroTurf™ can be kept in reserve and used when the soiled piece is removed for cleaning and drying soak in one part bleach to 30 parts water; rinse thoroughly, and dry completely before reuse. Linoleum is easy to clean and disinfect and, when used on the floor and a couple of inches up the walls of wooden enclosures, will help preserve the wood from the acidic urates. Hiding Place A hiding place should be provided for Burmese pythons. A half-log available at pet stores, an empty cardboard box or upside-down opaque plastic container, the latter two with an access doorway cut into one end, can also be used. The plastic is easily cleaned when necessary; the box can be tossed out when soiled and replaced with a new one. Once your snake outgrows these easily replaced hide boxes, you will need to use your imagination. Eventually, you can use a large kitty-litter pan or suitably modified garbage can. Once the snake reaches ten feet, you will have to put your imagination or hammer and nails and wood to work to devise increasingly larger enclosures. Temperature Gradient Proper temperature range is essential to keeping your snake healthy. The ambient air temperature throughout the enclosure must be maintained between F during the day, with a basking area kept at 90F. At night, the ambient air temperature may be allowed to drop down no lower than F. Special reptile heating pads that are manufactured to maintain a temperature about 20F higher than the air temperature may be used inside the enclosure. There are adhesive pads that can be stuck to the underside of a glass enclosure unfortunately, when the time comes to move your snake to a larger tank, the heating pad cannot easily be removed from the old tank and reused. Heating pads made for people, found at all drug stores and supermarkets, are also available; these have built-in high-medium-low switches and can be used under or inside a glass or wood enclosure. You can also use incandescent light bulbs in porcelain and metal reflector hoods to provide the additional heat required for the basking area. All lights must be screened off to prevent the snake from burning itself, and bright lights must be turned off at least hours a day to mimic a proper photoperiod; if kept under lights all the time, the snakes will stress and may become ill. If the proper temperatures cannot be maintained without the incandescent light, then you must use another source of

non-light emitting or dim light emitting heat. All pythons are very susceptible to thermal burns and for this reason a hot rock must not be used. Buy at least two thermometers: You will end up with a snake who will be too cold to eat and digest its food. Once your snake is bigger, invest in a pig blanket, a large rigid pad for which you can buy a thermostat to better control the temperature. Special Lighting No special lighting is needed. You may use any incandescent bulb in the enclosure during the day, and a suitable red, blue or nocturnal reptile light at night. Snakes do not require ultraviolet B wavelengths. Make sure the snake cannot get into direct contact with the light bulbs. If they climb into the fluorescent tube fixture, they may pop out and break the bulb--an expensive and potentially lethal accident. Feeding Allow your snake to acclimate for a week or two to its new home. Start your hatchling about 22" in length off with a single pre-killed week to day old "fuzzy" rat. A smaller sized hatchling may require a small mouse. Older Burmese may be fed larger pre-killed rats. While Burmese most of whom are bottomless pits when it comes to putting down food will often gladly eat prey that is too large for their size, they will generally regurgitate the prey item one or more days later--not a pretty sight. If you have not had any experience force feeding a snake, you may not want to try it yourself until you have seen someone do it. It is very easy to overfeed Burmese as most of them are always eager for food, whether they need it or not. Be judicious--you will end up with a giant snake soon enough. Just feed enough to keep it healthy, not obese. Water Provide a bowl of fresh water at all times; your snake will both drink, soak and may defecate in it. Check it and replace with fresh water as necessary. Bowls should be big enough for the snake to get into and soak before its sheds. As the snake gets too big for suitably sized tubs in its enclosure, it will have to be taken out and bathed in a secured and safe bathroom.

Chapter 3 : Albino Ball Python, Python regius Ball Python Morphs Snake Facts and Care

Burmese Python Care Sheet Some of the more popular morphs that are commonly found are the albino, green, labyrinth, The General Care and Maintenance of.

With proper snake supplies and reptile health and wellness in mind, this species is a great captive for dedicated keepers. Burmese Python Availability Burmese pythons are readily available in a variety of colors and patterns, with new traits and trait combinations becoming available with increasing frequency. They are typically available from captive breeders or reptile shop online. It is important to check local laws and regulations regarding the species. Burmese Python Size Burmese pythons are among the largest snakes and can potentially reach lengths of more than 20 feet and weights in excess of pounds. Snakes of this size, however, are unusual and do not reach these proportions quickly or by accident. Growth is rapid initially, but slows considerably after about 10 feet. The average adult Burmese in captivity is probably about 11 or 12 feet long. Burmese Python Caging Most importantly, the cage should safely contain the snake. After all, subsequent requirements are less important once the snake has disappeared into that hole in the wall behind the washing machine because you forgot to properly secure it. The size of the enclosure should be large enough to allow the snake a reasonable amount of movement, yet small enough to permit accurate temperature and humidity control. Burmese pythons are terrestrial snakes that spend most of their time on the ground, so the floor space of their enclosure will be more important to the animal than the height of the cage. A baby Burmese will require the space equivalent of a gallon reptile terrariums. Larger individuals will need more space, of course. A pound animal will need floor space measuring at least 4 feet by 8 feet. The cage should also have a door that allows easy access and that can be closed securely. A glass or Plexiglas window for viewing is important, as well. Some ventilation is desirable, although not as much as one might initially think. Heat and humidity are easily lost through vents, especially through those on the top of the enclosure. Small vents located on the sides of the cage will permit adequate air exchange. Wood, plastic and glass are all acceptable materials for cage construction. I use enclosures that are constructed of ABS plastic, and which have a smooth, nonporous finish that allows easy cleaning and sterilization. Snake habitat products may make this more difficult, so sometimes simplicity is the best option. All corners and edges are rounded, leaving no difficult-to-clean areas. The cages are lightweight, have large tempered glass viewing areas and, best of all, someone else has made them already. Regular and spot cleanings are required with proper reptile cleaning supplies. Burmese Python Substrate There are several decent snake substrate s available. It is virtually impossible to provide a naturalistic vivarium for a large python, unless only the sturdiest of materials are used. Substrates are generally selected for utility rather than aesthetics. Newspaper is absorbent, fairly sterile and readily available. Various woods, shavings and shredded substrate products are acceptable, too, although they tend to foul in moist environments. Slightly cooler temperatures are allowable at night. Indeed, cooler night temperatures are essential to breeding Burmese pythons, should you desire to eventually undertake this endeavor. Because Burmese pythons require temperatures above what we consider comfortable in our homes, it is necessary to raise the temperature of the enclosure with a supplemental heat source. This heat can be provided in several ways. Heat pads or undertank heaters are available in many pet shops that stock reptile supplies. They provide safe, even heating for smaller enclosures. Heat tape is also available and serves the same purpose, although it allows more flexibility in heating larger areas more economically. It is important, though, to give the snake some choice in determining its own temperature. In the wild, the animal would be able to thermoregulate by freely moving between warmer or cooler areas. These choices are limited in captivity, but by proper heater placement, it is possible to give the snake some control over its own temperature. You should have a hot side, and a cool side. The hot spot is species specific. The maximum thermal gradient can be obtained by placing the heater at one end of the enclosure rather than in the center. It will be warmer nearer the heater and cooler as the distance from the heater increases. This will give the snake a wider range of choices in regulating its own temperature. The heater, it should be noted, serves two purposes. It provides a warm area so the snake can increase its body temperature, yet it also provides the heat

that increases the ambient temperature of the enclosure. Depending on the type, size and construction of the cage, heat loss from the cage and the temperature of the air outside the cage, the heater may need to be much warmer than the average temperature of the enclosure itself. This is cause for alarm for many novices. It is perfectly acceptable to have a temperature of degrees Fahrenheit or more directly over or under the heat source if this is necessary to maintain the desired ambient temperature. Always be certain, however, that the snake can retreat to a cooler area as it sees fit. The temperature of the enclosure can be regulated in several ways. In the first and most primitive way, the temperature can be controlled by initially selecting a heater with an output that provides the acceptable amount of heat. If ambient conditions outside the enclosure are constant and the heater output remains the same, then the temperature inside the cage should remain constant, as well. It is difficult to select a heater with exactly the heat output necessary, and constant conditions outside the cage are not always as constant as they might be. A rheostat or dimmer switch can adjust the heat output of a heater by adjusting the power input, the other problem can be overcome by using a controller with a feedback system. Because a thermostat monitors the temperature of the enclosure and activates the heater to add heat when appropriate, it is by far the best method for controlling cage temperature. There are two types of thermostats on the market for use in herp-related applications. A proportional thermostat is much like a rheostat with a feedback system. The thermostat continuously monitors the temperature and makes slight adjustments in the electrical current to the heater. In this type, the heat is always on, but only at the level necessary to maintain the set temperature. Wild Burmese pythons live in areas of high humidity, and captive animals require the same. Adding heat to the enclosure can dry it out and provisions must be made to retain moisture. A tightly constructed cage with a water bowl and minimal air vents should keep the relative humidity above 60 percent or so. Wooden cages should be painted and sealed. Aquariums with screen tops are difficult to regulate. Heat rises and escapes through the top, requiring additional heat to maintain the appropriate temperature, which further dries out the enclosure. Aquariums should be used with tops that restrict heat and moisture loss. Burmese Python Food Feeding Burmese pythons is fairly simple. I feed an appropriately sized meal whenever the snake is hungry. Baby Burmese pythons can eat an adult mouse during their first feeding, which is surprising to many novice snake keepers. Several sensory systems are operating in a feeding python. First, the food item must smell like something to eat. Second, the food item must move in the manner of a potential meal. And third, the food item must be warmer than its surroundings. Burmese pythons eat only warm-blooded prey and have sensory organs pits to detect the slight amount of heat generated by the body of a potential food item. A combination of these factors seems to be important in eliciting a feeding response in newborn pythons. Once a baby python has had its first few meals, it is possible for it to learn behaviors that allow it to recognize and eat pre-killed food items, or even chicken parts or processed snake foods. It is sometimes recommended that snakes be fed only dead food items to avoid potential injury that could be inflicted by the struggling prey item. It is important to remember, though, that nearly every meal taken by a python in the history of the species has been living. Nature has prepared them well to deal with the possible associated problems. Frozen pre-killed food makes things easier for us, though, and perhaps that should be the most important consideration. As the snake grows, it will require more food, of course. For the first few meals, one mouse offered once or twice a week will be sufficient. Soon, though, the snake will require more than one mouse at each feeding. When the snake is regularly eating several mice per feeding, try offering it a small rat instead. By the time a Burmese is about 4 feet long, it should be able to take a medium rat; by 6 feet, a large rat would be appropriate. Chickens also represent a good food source; hatchling Burmese pythons can eat a day old chick, and at 9 or 10 feet they can eat an adult chicken. Burmese Python Water Burmese pythons should always have access to fresh water. It is not necessary for the snakes to be able to submerge themselves in the water dish. Burmese Python Handling and Temperament Burmese pythons, because of their docile nature and undemanding requirements, are among the most suitable of the large snakes as captive animals. Snakes have only a limited ability to reason. Believe me, that statement is quite generous. If the snake is handled infrequently and most of its interaction with its keeper occurs during feeding time, this conditioning is reinforced. With large snakes, especially, it is important that the snake learn to differentiate feeding time from other times, and you from its dinner. If a snake is acting hungry when I open

the cage, I gently tap it on the nose with a rolled up newspaper. Visit his website at [BobClark](#).

Chapter 4 : Care Sheet - Python regius - World of Ball Pythons

Care SHEET Burmese Python Download as PDF (KB) Latin name: *Python molurus bivittatus*. Size. Burmese Pythons are among the largest snakes and can potentially reach.

Oddly colored or patterned snakes may not be very cryptic and are therefore spotted more easily by predators. In captivity, this is not a problem, and a number of color and pattern mutations are established in some species. Burmese pythons are one such example, available in a variety of color and pattern mutations. Burmese Basics Burmese pythons typically have grey or green to gold base coloring, with dark brown blotches on the dorsal and lateral sides of the animal. The top of the head features a distinct arrow shape, and the belly is dotted by dark spots and blotches. Patient hunters and powerful constrictors, Burmese pythons ambush rodents, birds and mammals -- suffocating their prey before they consume it. Female Burmese pythons grow larger than males. Females deposit large clutches of eggs, and then coil around the eggs for the duration of incubation. Hatchling Burmese pythons are completely autonomous and look like small versions of their parents. The Albino Mutation The first albino Burmese pythons were discovered in the early s. Python breeder Bob Clark obtained one of these animals and produced the first ever captive bred albino Burmese python in Though popularly called albino, these snakes technically exhibit amelanism, lack of pigment. A true albino animal has no pigment, whereas these snakes still have yellow and red pigments; only their black pigment is missing. Young albino Burmese pythons have bright red eyes and a white base color, topped with yellow and red markings. As they age, these markings become less distinct. The Granite Mutation In late , another mutation of the Burmese python was found in the wild. These snakes were colored typically, but their pattern was different. Covering the animals in small, irregular dark blotches on the dorsal and lateral sides, the new mutation was coined "granite"; it has also proven to be a recessive mutation. In addition to the irregular dark spots, granite Burmese pythons also feature a patternless belly, indistinct head markings and all of their light colored dorsal scales have a dark spot in the middle. Pairing Recessive Traits For a recessive trait to be expressed in an organism both parents must contribute the mutated gene to the offspring; only animals with two copies of a mutated allele will display the mutation. As both the granite and albino mutations are inherited in a simple recessive fashion, it is difficult to produce this combination. The first step in the process is to breed an albino snake to a granite snake. The young from this clutch will look normal, but carry the genes for both mutations. These offspring -- termed double heterozygous -- are then bred together. The resulting offspring represent a variety of genetic combinations. Statistically, only one in 16 babies will display both the albino and granite mutation; the other 15 snakes will display varying combinations of the genes. Like albinos, they have red eyes and like granite pythons, they have patternless bellies; they are essentially red, yellow and white versions of the granite mutation. Over time, the markings fade somewhat, and they essentially become white and yellow snakes. Care Considerations Burmese pythons *Python bivittatus* are among the largest snakes in the world, reaching more than 18 feet and pounds. As adults, they require very large cages and high quantities of food -- which for adult Burmese pythons means rabbits, chickens or ducks. Owning one of these animals requires significant time, skill and resources beyond the capabilities of many would-be keepers. Potential owners must consider all aspects of Burmese python care before purchasing such a large and potentially dangerous animal.

Chapter 5 : Burmese Python Care Sheet

Burmese Python Care Sheet. Burmese Pythons are definitely not for the beginner. Despite their seemingly docile nature at most times their sheer size and unpredictability make them extremely dangerous for the inexperienced.

Joel Bortz Ball pythons are one of the most popular snakes kept in captivity worldwide. Keeping them can be very rewarding and on the whole, is not too difficult. It is critically important to have your enclosure complete and ready for your ball python before bringing it home. This way, your snake can acclimate itself to its new environment as seamlessly as possible without jeopardizing its health. Enclosure There are two ways to house your snake. The first, and most popular way is in a terrarium. The second method used more commonly by breeders is in a rack system. The size of your enclosure should not exceed one and a half times the length of your snake and should not be less than two thirds the length of your snake. In a terrarium, I prefer to go a little larger so that the enclosure is not too cluttered. There are many who believe that there is no maximum size to the enclosure - provided the snake has plenty of hides and ample foliage. Ball pythons are known to be shy animals and like other snakes will seek comfort in a small and dark space. Heat As ball pythons are cold blooded, they rely on external heat that you as the owner will provide for them. The snake itself will modulate its own heat requirements and will therefore need a healthy range of temperatures throughout the enclosure. The warm side of the enclosure should be between 87 - 90 F and the cool side should be 77 - 80 F. As a beginner, and one that has not kept ball pythons successfully before, it is important to have two thermometers affixed to each end of the cage so you can see the exact temperatures at all times. If your enclosure is too small, creating a proper heat gradient will not be possible. Humidity Ball pythons do not need very special humidity requirements. As a beginner, go to your local pet store or gardening store and pick up a hygrometer to accurately measure the humidity in your snake's enclosure. Daily misting is not necessary for a ball python. Substrate Ball pythons are clean animals and choosing a substrate is not difficult. Almost any type of substrate you find in the pet shop will work just fine. The more porous the substrate like mulch the more it will retain moisture and bolster the humidity. The most popular bedding is probably aspen shavings. Aspen is easy to spot clean and easy to replace entirely. I personally use newspaper as my preferred bedding for ball pythons. Remember that cedar is not a suitable bedding as it is toxic to all snakes. Hides Like most snakes, ball pythons seek dark and secure places to spend most of their time and providing the right amount of hides is critical to the snake's sense of security. If the snake does not feel secure, it will stress and give you feeding problems. Provide a hide on both the warm side and the cool side of the enclosure. If your enclosure is quite large, then providing more hides will be necessary. Some people also like to provide a damp hide - a place the snake can go when it needs more humidity. I personally have never provided a damp hide for ball pythons. Lighting Ball pythons do not need special lighting requirements and will do just fine with the natural photo cycle of your home. Fresh water Make sure there is always fresh water in the cage of your ball python. Some people change the water once a week. I prefer to change the water every 3 or 4 days. Obviously, if the water gets dirty beforehand, change it immediately. A healthy ball python will not typically soak in its water bowl. Therefore, this does not need to be a consideration when choosing a water bowl for your snake. Shedding You will be able to recognize when your snake begins to shed by three main markers. First, the stomach will begin to turn pink, then the skin of the snake will begin to get significantly duller, and finally, the eyes of the snake will become milky and appear opaque. This last stage is called "being in blue". Eventually the eyes will clear up and within the next 36 hours you can expect your snake to shed. Depending on the age of your snake, it will shed its skin every 4 - 6 weeks. Ball pythons do not typically have problems shedding as their humidity requirements are not too intensive. Should your ball python shed incompletely, soak the snake for two hours in shallow water. Afterwards, the remaining skin should come off easily. It is always important to check the snake after it has shed to ensure that there is no skin remaining on the tip of its tail, and that the eye caps have been completely removed. If you find that your snake is not shedding well, there are several things you can do to assist it. The humidity in the cage can be increased by simply moving the snake's water bowl on top of the heat source. You can also soak the snake for two hours in shallow water after the eyes have cleared and before

the actual shed has begun. If necessary, consider decreasing the ventilation in the enclosure to more successfully trap the humidity. Feeding Ball pythons can feed on mice their entire lives but nutritionally speaking, it is better to convert them over to rats as soon as possible. They should be fed on a weekly basis and require 1 appropriately sized meal per week. To be on the safe side, it is better to feed your ball python in a dedicated feeding cage. This way when you put your hand inside of the snakes primary enclosure, you will not trigger a feeding response and get bit. Though this is uncommon, it has been known to happen. As your snake gets older, it will become more important to have it eating frozen thawed food. This is because any rodent older than a fuzzy has developed teeth and can cause serious damage to your snake. NEVER leave a live rodent unattended with your snake. Ball pythons are also known to be finicky eaters especially in the winter months - though less so when they are younger. As long as your snake is not losing weight and remains healthy, there is nothing to worry about and they will eventually resume eating. For the younger ball pythons who are stubborn eaters, methods such as cup feeding can quickly solve your problem. However, when purchasing a baby ball python, the breeder you bought it from will typically ensure the snake is eating well before selling it to you. This is why it is critical to source your snakes from reputable breeders only. If you find that your baby snake is giving you problems, make sure your husbandry requirements are being met to the tee. If the snake begins to lose weight, speak to your vet and seek advice from experienced keepers. There are also a plethora of forums online where people are very keen to help new snake keepers and posting your feeding or other problems can often lead to finding a quick solution. Handling Ball pythons are known to be very docile animals and are very comfortable with being handled. On the rare occasion, you will find a snake that is snappy. Even with these snakes, regular handling should eventually calm them down. It is important NOT to handle your snake for at least 36 hours after it has eaten as this can disrupt the digestion of its food and lead to regurgitation. Aside from dealing with the awful smell and mess, it is bad for the snake and can lead to future eating problems. It is also best not to handle your snake while it is in the process of shedding. The main reason for this is because as their eyes turn blue, the snakes ability to see becomes greatly diminished. As one can expect, when an animal cannot see its surroundings, it will become a lot more defensive and be more likely to strike. As you have kept your snake longer, you will learn when it is appropriate to handle it. Some people are concerned about how often they can handle their snake. The short answer is that as long as your snake does not become agitated, you can handle it as frequently as you like. Also remember that the less often you handle your snake, the less it will be used to being handled. Therefore, if you are keeping a ball python as a pet, regular handling once or twice a week is essential. Cleaning Make sure you spot clean the cage at least once a week. Do a thorough cleaning once a month. This entails removing all of the contents of the cage and disinfecting them with an appropriate cleansing solution. The substrate should also be completely changed once a month. If you are using newspaper or Astroturf, change it once a week. Sexing your snake There are two methods to accurately determine the gender of your snake. Ball pythons are especially easy to pop-sex but if you have not been taught by a professional, never attempt it on your own. The same applies for probing which is tricky for any snake. The easiest thing to do is to enquire from the breeder you are purchasing the snake from before taking ownership. Female snakes will typically be larger than their male counterparts - so knowing the sex of you snake may be important to you. Female ball pythons can grow up to 4.

Chapter 6 : Ball Python Care Sheet

This care sheet is showing the way we found works best for us from our many years of experience of breeding and caring for this species. HOUSING Burmese python babies can start out in enclosures as small as 15 gallons.

Buy from a trusted reptile breeder Since , I have been offering quality reptiles and consistently doing the "right" thing. I always choose quality over quantity and do what ever is necessary to maintain the highest level of health with all of my animals. Also, I will consult you on making sure the animal you select is the best choice for you. I have a wide array of ball python morphs for sale. So, I look forward to working with you and please feel free to contact me anytime! Selection, Care, and Breeding. Ball Pythons are one of the most popular snakes being kept and bred in captivity. There are many reasons for their popularity. First, they are very small for a python species. Most individuals only reach feet in length as adults. They are very docile and not fast-moving like most snakes, which makes them easy to handle. They rarely strike out of aggression. Ball Pythons are also very easy to breed and the babies are usually great feeders and easy to raise. They also live a long time. Finally, ball pythons are extremely popular because they come in well over different color and pattern combinations. Imports and Farm-Raised vs Captive Bred: In the past, most ball pythons that were available for purchase as pets were wild-caught normals, usually adults. Imported adult ball pythons can be very difficult to acclimate. Wild Ball Pythons tend to prefer rodents that live in their natural environment in West Africa. They will sometimes refuse to eat the mice and rats that are bred in captivity. However, some breeders do produce African Soft Fur Rats, which are similar to what they feed on in the wild. Overall, buying imported adults can be more trouble than they are worth. They may take several years to fully acclimate to captive conditions and may or may not ever reproduce. Every year in Spring and early Summer, thousands of baby ball pythons are imported from Africa. Dealers in Africa capture gravid, wild females and hold them until they lay eggs. The eggs are hatched and the babies are shipped into the US. These babies generally do much better than the adults, but they can still have issues. Often, they will sit and wait for days or weeks with the exporter, importer, or dealer before they are sold. These snakes are not always kept in ideal conditions, which can cause health problems. True captive bred and born ball pythons are by far the best snakes to work with, whether you are buying one as a pet or a future breeder. They acclimate to captive conditions extremely well and they are usually excellent feeders. They tend to grow faster and breed more consistently than wild-caught or farm-raised ball pythons. Acclimating a new Ball Python: When you receive a new ball python, it is important to set it up in the correct environment so it can acclimate and begin feeding. Our ball pythons are raised in plastic boxes within a rack system. These boxes are usually not very big. Babies are housed in 6 quart boxes. Larger juveniles and subadults are housed in quart boxes. These boxes are opaque so only diffused light enters them. These conditions are ideal for ball pythons. In the wild, these snakes spend most of their time in rodent burrows, rock crevices, hollow logs, etc. They feel secure when in close quarters and get stressed when they are in big, open spaces. However, most people that are keeping an individual, or perhaps several ball pythons, prefer to house them in larger display cages in a naturalistic setup. It is not difficult to acclimate ball pythons to this kind of setup, but it does take a little patience. First, it is best to cover all 4 sides of the cage with black construction paper or cardboard. That way, the snake cannot see out into the room. It will feel more secure that way. Next, make sure there are several good hiding places. The snake will probably spend most of its time in these hiding places. Make sure there is one on the warm side of the cage and another on the cool side. Newly acquired ball pythons normally begin feeding within the first week or two. However, the stress from shipping and being placed in an unfamiliar environment can sometimes make the snake go into a non-feeding mode. This is nothing to panic about, as long as there are no other health issues with the snake. Older juveniles, subadults, and adults, can go much longer. Ball pythons sometimes take lots of patience! Making sure they have the proper environment is extremely important to getting a new snake to settle in and begin normal behavior. See the sections below on feeding and housing for more information and tips. Ball Pythons are one of the best species of snakes as far as handling is concerned. Most bites occur because of a feeding response. If you bring feeder rodents into the same room that a ball python is kept in, the snake will

smell them and become interested in feeding. Newly acquired ball pythons should not be handled unless absolutely necessary for the first couple of weeks, or until it has fed several times. Ball pythons that are stressed tend to go off-feed. Allow the new snake to adjust to its new environment slowly. Ball pythons can be kept in a variety of cages. For display purposes, glass aquariums or reptile cages are generally used. Babies can be housed in small cages, equivalent to a 20 gallon aquarium. Adults need to be housed in cages at least the size of a 40 gallon aquarium. If branches, logs, or other props are used, you can see the snake climbing on these. The drawback is that glass cages tend to make ball pythons feel less secure, which could cause feeding and behavior issues. Another housing method is rack systems using plastic boxes. These are generally used for housing larger numbers of ball pythons. Many snakes can be kept in a relatively small area. The individual boxes are set up so that each snake requires a minimum amount of time and labor. The drawback to this kind of caging is that you have to slide the box out of the rack to see the snake. Whatever cage type is used, make sure it is very secure with no way for the snake to escape. Regardless of the type of caging you choose, it is important to create a proper environment for the snakes. Ball pythons do very well in captivity if they are given the correct conditions. The ambient cage temperature should be during the day, with a slight drop at night. A hot spot should be given that stays a constant degrees. It is very important to make sure there is a temperature gradient, so the snake can choose whether it wants to warm up or cool down. Rack systems are generally heated with heat tape or heat cables. Most racks have tape or cable on each shelf in the rack. This must be connected to a high quality thermostat to control the temperature. A thermostat is probably the most important piece of equipment you can buy. A thermostat that fails could lead to the deal of your snakes. We use and recommend the Herpstat made by Spyder Robotics. These can be purchased at www. Another very important piece of equipment is a temperature gun. This small device will measure the temperature of anything you point it at, at the click of a button. It is much more accurate than a stick on cage thermometer. You can also use it to measure temperatures anywhere in the cage or room for that matter. They are very inexpensive and can be purchased at www. Heating a display cage is a little more complicated. A combination of heat lamps and a heat pad usually works best. This will supply the belly heat that the snake needs to digest its food. For additional heat, a lamp placed above the cage will work. The wattage will depend on the cage size, amount of ventilation, and room temperature. It is best to use a red or blue nocturnal reptile bulb in the heat lamp. These darker bulbs will not disturb the snake as much.

Chapter 7 : www.nxgvision.com - Ball Python Care Sheet

Burmese Pythons are the most popular of the large constrictors. Burmese Pythons adapt well to captivity when taken care of properly. The only problem is their size, an adult female Burmese Python can grow up to 6 meters in length, males are slightly smaller at around four to five meters in length.

Ball pythons are generally a bit shy, but they make for ideal captives, because they are of a small size, are generally friendly, are manageable to care for, and come in a remarkable array of colors and patterns. Ball pythons are native to central and western Africa and thrive in these warm, tropical areas. They are known as the royal python in many parts of the world and are revered in some areas of Africa. Ball pythons make for a quality pet for the first-time keeper and experienced herpetoculturists alike. Each year, breeders create incredible, innovative, never-before-seen pattern and color variations that continually generate new fans of the ball python. With reptile health and wellness in mind, this species thrives in captivity. Ball Python Availability

Ball pythons are quite easy to acquire. They are commonly available from pet stores, reptile breeders, reptile expos, and through online reptile shops and breeders. The best choice will always be captive born and bred snakes because they are usually parasite free and most likely the healthiest. Any ball python should be well-started and eating prior to purchase. Ball Python Size Ball python hatchlings are approximately 10 inches in length. Adult female ball pythons average 3 to 5 feet long, and adult male ball pythons average 2 to 3 feet in size. This is a species in which mature females are typically much larger than the males. A 5-foot ball python is considered big, although lengths of 6 feet or more have been reported. Ball Python Life Span With proper care, ball pythons can live 30 years or more. The record age for a ball python is more than 40 years – so plan on a long life for your new pet snake. Ball Python Caging Ball python enclosures can be as simple or as elaborate as you want to care for when it comes to snake habitat products. Remember that the more you put in the cage, the more you have to clean and disinfect on a regular basis. That said, there are different enclosures that work well for ball pythons, including, but not limited to, plastic sweaterboxes i. Rubbermaid , melamine racks and any of the commercially available, plastic-type reptile cages. Glass reptile terrariums and tanks are adequate for ball pythons, but the screen tops on such enclosures can make it very difficult to maintain proper humidity levels. Juvenile ball pythons seem to do well in small enclosures that make them feel secure. A small snake in a big cage can become overwhelmed and stressed. Adult ball pythons do not require exceptionally large or elaborate enclosures either. A inch by inch by inch enclosure will more than comfortably house an adult ball python. Remove feces and urates as soon as possible. Do a complete tear-down every 30 days by removing all substrate and reptile accessories and completely disinfecting with a 5 percent bleach solution. Rinse the enclosure thoroughly with water, and allow it to dry completely before replacing cage accessories and your snake. Ball pythons are secretive snakes that appreciate and utilize hide spots. Clay flowerpots, plastic flowerpot trays and commercially available hide boxes all work well. Provide your ball python with a basking spot temperature of 88 to 96 degrees Fahrenheit and an ambient temperature of 78 to 80 degrees. The ambient temperature should not fall below 75 degrees. It is vitally important to know the temperatures at which you are keeping your snake s. There are several types of snake heat lamps that help heat a ball python enclosure. Undercage heating pads and tapes like the Zilla heat pad , ceramic heat emitters Flukers , basking bulbs both regular daytime and red night bulbs are just a few. With heat emitters and basking bulbs, it is crucial to keep an eye on the humidity within the enclosure, especially if combined with a screen top, as both will dry the air quickly. Do not use hot rocks with snakes as they can heat unevenly over too small of a surface area and can cause serious burns. Continuous bright, overhead lighting is stressful to snakes, especially a nocturnal species such as the ball python. Ball pythons seem to prefer humidity levels of 50 to 60 percent. Kevin McCurley Snake Substrate Newspapers and paper towels are the cheapest and easiest substrates for ball pythons with regards to cleaning and disinfecting – out with the old, in with the new. Cypress mulch and orchid bark are great substrates for controlling humidity, but remember that too much humidity can be as detrimental if not more as too little. Never use any substrate containing cedar, as it contains oils that can be deadly to reptiles! Avoid sand, shavings and peat bedding. Ball pythons can eat rats from the time they are

young â€” starting off with rat pups or "crawlers" at first and moving up in size as they grow. Do not handle your ball python for at least a day after feeding, as this can lead to regurgitation. Never leave a live rodent unattended with any snake, as they can injure the snake. Ball pythons are well-known for not eating at certain times throughout the year, particularly in the winter months. This is typically nothing to worry about with healthy, well-established pythons, although it can be extremely frustrating to the snakekeeper. If your ball python is healthy, continue your husbandry routine as usual, but keep the amount of handling to a minimum. Offer your ball python food every 10 to 14 days until it is interested in eating again, as the snake will eventually resume feeding normally. Feed adult ball pythons every 1 to 2 weeks and younger ball pythons weekly as they need this energy to grow. Do not be alarmed if a well-started ball python goes off feed during the cooler, drier times of the year, as this is common in captivity. Snakes generally do not eat while they are in the shed cycle. Ball Python Water Always have fresh, clean water available for your ball python. Check the water daily. The size of the water dish is up to you. If it is large enough for the ball python to crawl in to and soak, sooner or later your snake will make the most of the opportunity â€” ball pythons seem to enjoy a nice soak from time to time. Ensure that the water bowl is not too deep for juvenile animals â€” 1 inch or so will suffice. Snakes of many species will defecate in their water bowls from time to time, so be prepared to clean and disinfect the water bowl. The water bowl should be cleaned and disinfected on a weekly basis. Having a spare water bowl for such occasions can be handy, so that one may be used while the other is being cleaned. Ball Python Handling and Temperament Ball pythons are generally shy and will spend much of their time hiding. Your ball python may initially see you as a threat and it must learn who you are. The goal is to establish trust between you and your snake. Once a ball python realizes that you will not hurt it they often seem to enjoy being handled. Some ball pythons may try to hide when handled and occasionally there are ones that may even bite due to excessive fear. These ball pythons may require a bit more time to settle in and establish trust. If a snake looks like it is going to strike, it is best to not handle it. Relax when holding your animal â€” sit down and give the animal a chance to settle. Some snakes may not eat for several hours or longer after being handled, so avoid handling if you plan to feed. After a snake has eaten it may be a good idea to limit the handling because it may be uncomfortable for the animal. Kevin McCurley is the source for Ball Python care and information. Visit his website at [NewEnglandReptile](#).

Chapter 8 : Albino Ball Python for Sale | Albino Ball Pythons

Care Sheet for Ball Python - Python Regius. Care Sheet written by: Joel Bortz. Ball pythons are one of the most popular snakes kept in captivity worldwide.

Native to jungle areas and grassy marshes in Southeast Asia. This care sheet is showing the way we found works best for us from our many years of experience of breeding and caring for this species. At around months, you can increase the size of the enclosure. There are several kinds that work for pythons, e. All snakes are skilled escape artists. You can use many types of bedding for your pet. Spot clean the bedding whenever they defecate. You should only need to clean the whole thing out about once a month. Disinfect the enclosure and change out the bedding at that time. Zoo Meds wipe out or vinegar and water both work good for cage cleaning. So they like it warm, though they need to be able to cool off if they want to. Like all reptiles, they are dependent on external thermoregulation to control their body temperature. This essentially means you need to provide both a hot and cool side to your enclosure. All the heat elements should be on one side and the other will then be the cool side. This way your snake can move back and forth between the different temperatures depending on its needs. The hot side basking spot should be at degrees. For babies, put one hide there and another hide on the cool side. The cool side can be between degrees. The heat pads are usually placed on the hot side with a hide over it. Both of these are placed on the outside underneath the enclosure. You want a heat pad that only covers half the tank or less. Use a good quality temperature gauge too, like Zoo Meds digital temp gauge or Exo Terras Thermometer to figure out the temperatures in your enclosure. We do not recommend the use of hot rocks. They have a tendency to heat unevenly over too small an area and can cause serious burns. Exo Terras water bowls or Flukers water bowls are good decorative choices or a good ceramic crock dish. Scrub the bowl at least once a week to keep bacteria slime from building up. Hand misters are usually sufficient. Do not handle your snake for several hours before you are going to feed it. We do recommend feeding in its own enclosure. Feeding in its home will not make your pet more aggressive or associate you with food. This allows you to gently hook your snake out of its enclosure when you want to hold it. Check out these hooks: Exo Terra collapsible hook for babies and larger hooks for adults. Using a snake hook when you take your pet out will greatly reduce the chances of you being bit from a feeding response. Hatchlings to 2 years 1 rodent of appropriate size once a week. Snakes in general tend not to eat when they are in shed. Just wait to feed until your pet sheds. Snakes over two years can eat every 2 weeks if you want. If you work with them they can be friendly and easy to care for. Full grown Burmese pythons usually are too large and heavy to be held by one person. When holding your younger snake, always remember to support your snakes body. Once a python realizes that you will not hurt it, they often seem to enjoy or at least tolerate being handled. Relax and give your snake time to get used to you. Avoid touching the top of its head. Unless it knows and trusts you, touching the top of the head will cause it to jerk away from the touch. The fast movement of the snake tends to scare a lot of new snake owners. This is called being "head shy. Give your new pet at least a couple of days to settle in to its new home before handling. Start slow and gradually increase the amount of time you have your snake out. So please take care of it properly. Subscribe to our Newsletter.

Chapter 9 : Information on Albino Granite Burmese Pythons | Animals - www.nxgvision.com

Sources. Ask a store partner about Petco's selection of books on ball pythons and the variety of private brand products available for the care and happiness of your new pet.

I do extensive research on reptiles I do not own before posting a care sheet on here. About Possibly no snake has gotten a worse rap in the past 10 year than the Burmese Python. Many people have theories of how these snakes first got there, and many people blamed irresponsible pet owners. Unfortunately, the people who said that, eventually effected the Burmese Python industry, extremely. In March , the Burmese Python, along with 3 other large constrictors were banned from import and interstate transportation. But for those who still can get and want Burmese Pythons, here is a simple care sheet for this giant Indian python. Burmese pythons were readily available up until the time of the infamous snake ban. Now, you still can get Burmese pythons, or Burms, by purchasing from instate breeders. Burmese pythons are one of the largest of python species, and one of the largest snakes species in the world. Many exceed 20 feet and over pounds. These snakes are NOT for beginners and can even be considered dangerous. There are a few reports of escaped pythons killing their owners. Burmese Python Housing Burmese pythons are truly magnificent and giant snakes. Although they do not have the length of their cousins the Reticulated Python, they have the girth that Retics do not. Many Burms have been documented of being over pounds. Burmese pythons are also able to attain massive lengths of over 20 feet. Most though max out around feet. They grow rapidly but will eventually begin to slow down once they are about 10 feet Clark, reptilechannel. Because of their large size, they need large cages. A single adult should be kept in a cage no smaller than 4 wide 8 feet long and atleast 3 feet tall and larger is always better. These almost always have to be custom made tanks, which can be costly and difficult to find. Babies can be kept in gallon tanks for several months, but because of their rapid growth, tanks must be upgraded quickly as the snake grows. Naturalistic tank setups can be used for babies, but as adults the tank should not be setup with much decor as the snakes will destroy the decor with just their movements in the cage. A good substrate to use for Burmese pythons is cypress bark that is available at places such as Home Depot. Just be sure the bedding is pure cypress and not mixed. These bags are cheap and include a lot of bedding, which will save money when cleaning up after these messy monsters. Nothing is more important than security. Always have a strong security method. I always suggest the use of locks with any species, and with this species, use a few locks just be sure. The escape of any snake is bad, but when Burms escape, and even kill people, it causes a huge hit on the hobby of reptile keeping. Heating, Lighting and Humidity Burmese pythons require temperatures in the mid 80s during the day and low 80s during the night. A hot spot should be provided that is around 95 degrees within a few degrees of each is acceptable. The best heating option for large areas is using heat tape. Under tank heaters are good, but are more costly as you would need a few to make the equivalent of what is needed for the hot spot in a larger cage that is 8 foot in floor length. Heat lamps are also very helpful, especially in maintaining ambient temperatures, although this could make maintaining proper humidity difficult. But be sure to provide a cool area so that the snake can go and cool down. Tightly sealed tanks with only a small vent should hold the proper humidity if a water bowl is also provided. Misting the tank daily will also help with maintaining humidity. Also putting patches of sphagnum moss can help as well. Burmese pythons do not need nor are benefited by the use of UVB lighting. Water As with all pets, Burmese pythons should have access to fresh water at all times. The water bowl needs to be large and sturdy so the powerful snake does not easily spill it. Change water at least twice a week. Feeding Burmese Python Eating Rabbit Burmese pythons large size means they need appropriate food items. As babies they can eat appropriately sized mice or rats once a week or biweekly. As they grow lager though, the best food would be rabbits. If feeding live, monitor the feeding until you are certain the prey item is dead. Feeding rabbits can be done weekly, biweekly, or even monthly. To buy prekilled frozen rabbits I suggest [http:](http://) Handling and Temperament Burmese pythons are among one of the most docile large constrictors. Those handled frequently become especially accustomed to the handling and rarely bite. Very cool animal to hold. As a general rule with all large constrictors. Per every 6 feet, you should have someone else there holding the snake with you.

Constrictors of 8 feet are well able to kill their owners. Even with the most tame snakes, the danger is always there. So again, per 6 feet, have someone else assisting with handling. With any escapes or fatalities concerning large constrictors, you hurt the reptile industry even more. As with most snakes, the less you handle your snake, the more he may become aggressive and may bite more. If you are not able to handle these snakes frequently, then be aware that you are risking the snakes temperament. External parasites include ticks and mites. These treatments may also be applied to ticks. Internal parasites can be checked for by fecal tests. If you think your snake may be carrying internal parasites have the feces tested by a vet to check for parasites. Signs of internal parasites are lethargy and runny stool. Mouth rot and respiratory infection are two things commonly seen in many snakes. RI is noticeable by wheezing, bubbles, and mucus from the snakes heat pits. If treated immediately, it is not life threatening. Checking for mouth rot should be checked for at least every 6 months by opening the mouth. If signs of mouth rot are present, then treatment will be necessary. Final Thoughts Burmese pythons are by no means a beginner snake. They should not be the first large constrictor for anyone. Only experienced keepers of large constrictors should consider these massive beasts. These snakes need large expensive cages, and require quite expensive care. Be sure to know what you are getting into. An irresponsible owner that releases their snake or lets it escape or, God forbid, killed by their snake, hurts the reptile industry extremely, and makes it harder for us to keep our hobby alive. We are already seeing the effects of the South Florida Burms on the reptile industry today. So please, be a responsible owner, and do your research extensively before buying a Burmese python or any large constrictor. Granite Burmese Python Disclaimer- These pictures are not my property and were used for educational purposes only.