

# Aquatic Turtle Care Sheet

## 1. Habitat:

Turtles need a comfy home! Get a spacious aquarium with a basking area, swimming space, and hiding spots.

Add clean water – they like it between 75-80°F (24-27°C). Use a water heater to keep it warm.

## 2. Basking Spot:

Turtles love to sunbathe! Create a basking area with a heat lamp above it.

Make sure the basking area is dry and warm, around 85-90°F (29-32°C).

## 3. UVB Lighting:

Turtles need their sunlight! Use a UVB light for about 10-12 hours a day.

This helps them make Vitamin D and keeps their shells healthy.

## 4. Diet:

Turtles are foodies! Feed them a mix of pellets, veggies, and occasional treats like worms or small fish.

Don't overfeed, and remember, a balanced diet is a happy turtle diet.

## 5. Water Quality:

Keep the water clean! Use a good filter and change 25-50% of the water every 2 weeks.

Turtles like to play and eat in clean water.

## 6. Handling:

Turtles are not fans of hugs, but gentle handling is okay. Wash your hands before and after.

Support their body and avoid squeezing. Let them feel safe in your hands.

### **7. Swim Time:**

Turtles love to swim! Let them paddle around in their tank or set up a separate kiddie pool.

Supervise their swim time to keep it safe and fun.

### **8. Hideouts:**

Turtles need privacy too! Add caves or plants for them to hide and chill.

Make sure there are no sharp edges in their hideouts.

### **9. Vet Visits:**

Turtles need check-ups too! Find a vet who knows about reptiles.

If they act differently or have any health issues, visit the vet.

### **10. Toys and Enrichment:**

Turtles get bored! Add floating toys or objects for them to explore.

Change things up to keep their home interesting.

### **11. Clean Environment:**

Turtles can be messy. Clean up poop daily and wipe down the tank with a safe cleaner.

Keep the gravel or substrate clean too.

### **12. No Outside Turtles:**

Don't bring wild turtles home. It's better for them to stay in their natural homes.

Our pet turtles are bred in a safe environment.

### **13. Learn Their Language:**

Turtles communicate differently. Watch their actions and movements.

Understand when they want to play, eat, or just relax.

### **14. Shell Check:**

A healthy shell is a happy turtle! Check for any cracks or weird bumps.

If something seems off, ask your vet for advice.

### **15. Enjoy the Journey:**

Turtles live a long time! Enjoy growing up together and creating a happy turtle life.

Every day is an adventure with your shell-tastic friend!

Remember, being a turtle caretaker is an exciting journey. Take good care of your shelled buddy, and you'll have a lifelong friend to share your adventures!