

# Regal Jumping Spider Care Sheet

## What is a Regal Jumping Spider?

The Regal Jumping Spider, also known as *Phidippus regius*, is a small, friendly spider known for its bright colors and big eyes. They are often black, brown, or green with white spots and can be a lot of fun to watch because they jump around when hunting.

## What You Need to Care for Your Regal Jumping Spider

### 1. A Terrarium:

You'll need a small tank or container to keep your spider safe. A 1-5-gallon tank or a plastic critter keeper is perfect. Make sure it has a lid so the spider doesn't escape!

### 2. Substrate (Bedding):

Use coconut husk or sphagnum moss for bedding at the bottom of the tank. It helps keep humidity right and gives your spider something to climb on.

### 3. Branches & Plants:

Regal Jumping Spiders love to climb and jump. Add some branches or plants inside the tank to give them something to explore. Fake plants work well, but you can use real ones too, as long as they are spider-safe.

### 4. Water:

Your spider needs fresh water every few days. Use a small dish or a cap from a bottle, and make sure to refill it. Alternatively, you can lightly mist the tank with water every few days to provide moisture.

## Temperature and Humidity

- **Temperature:** Regal Jumping Spiders like it warm! Keep the tank between **70-85°F** (24-29°C). Use a small heat mat if needed, but don't let it get too hot.
- **Humidity:** These spiders need a little humidity to stay healthy, around **50-60%**. Mist the tank lightly if it gets too dry.

## Feeding Your Spider

Regal Jumping Spiders eat **live insects** like fruit flies, crickets, and mealworms. Here's how to feed them:

1. **Insects:** Feed your spider insects that are small enough for it to catch. Make sure they are alive so your spider can hunt!
2. **How Often to Feed:**
  - Baby spiders: Feed them every 2 days.
  - Adult spiders: Feed them once or twice a week.
3. *Don't overfeed your spider!* If there are insects left in the tank for more than a day, remove them. You don't want to overcrowd the tank with bugs.

## Handling Your Regal Jumping Spider

While Regal Jumping Spiders are very friendly, they are not pets to be picked up often. They prefer to stay on their webs or plants and explore by jumping. Here's how you can interact with them:

1. **Use Your Hand:** Gently encourage your spider to crawl onto your hand. Do not grab or squeeze it.
2. **Let It Jump:** If your spider feels safe, it may jump from your hand. It's part of their natural behavior, so let it move around freely!
3. **Respect Your Spider:** Don't force your spider to do anything it doesn't want to. Let it explore on its own terms.

## Common Problems and How to Solve Them

1. **Spider Isn't Eating:**
  - Make sure the insects are small and alive.
  - Check that the tank temperature and humidity are right.
  - If your spider is shedding, it might not eat until it's finished.
2. **Spider Not Moving:**
  - Spiders can stay still for a long time. As long as it has food, water, and the right environment, it's probably just resting.
3. **Moulting (Shedding):**

- When your spider is getting bigger, it will shed its old skin (called moulting). During this time, it won't eat or move much. Let it do this on its own and don't disturb it.

## **Fun Facts About Regal Jumping Spiders**

- Regal Jumping Spiders have amazing vision with **eight eyes!** They can see colors and are very good at spotting prey.
- They are **solitary** and like to live alone, so you don't need to worry about them fighting other spiders.
- These spiders are **great jumpers!** They use silk to catch themselves if they miss a jump.

## **Quick Checklist for Your Regal Jumping Spider Care**

- **Tank:** 1-5-gallon container with a lid
- **Bedding:** Coconut husk or sphagnum moss
- **Branches/Plants:** Fake or real plants to climb
- **Water:** Fresh water every few days
- **Food:** Live insects (fruit flies, crickets, mealworms)
- **Temperature:** 70-85°F (24-29°C)
- **Humidity:** 50-60%

## **Have Fun Watching Your Spider!**

Regal Jumping Spiders are awesome pets to observe. They may be small, but they have a lot of personality! With the right care, your spider will thrive and be a cool pet to learn from. Just be patient and enjoy watching it jump around!