



The Complete Ball Python Care Guide

Practical Husbandry for Healthy, Long-Term Success

By Emerald City Reptiles

www.ecreptiles.com

Introduction

Ball Pythons are one of the most popular pet reptiles in the world because they are generally calm, manageable in size, and available in a wide range of beautiful morphs. Proper husbandry is the key to long-term success.

Choosing Your First Ball Python

Always purchase captive-bred Ball Pythons from reputable breeders whenever possible. A healthy Ball Python should have clear eyes, strong muscle tone, smooth body condition, and a consistent feeding history.

Enclosure Setup

Ball Pythons thrive in secure environments with proper heating, humidity, and hiding spots. Adult Ball Pythons are best kept in a minimum 4x2x2 enclosure with both warm and cool hides.

Heating & Temperature

Maintain warm side temperatures between 88–92°F and cool side temperatures between 76–82°F. All heat sources should be controlled by a thermostat to prevent dangerous overheating.

Humidity

Humidity should generally remain between 55–70%. Proper humidity is essential for healthy sheds, hydration, and respiratory health.

Feeding Guide

Hatchlings are generally fed every 5–7 days, while adults may eat every 10–21 days depending on body condition. Frozen/thawed prey is strongly recommended whenever possible.

Handling & Behavior

Allow new Ball Pythons time to settle before frequent handling. Most Ball Pythons become calm and manageable with consistent, gentle interaction.

Common Beginner Mistakes

Common issues include low humidity, lack of thermostat use, overfeeding, and excessive enclosure changes. Consistency is one of the most important aspects of successful husbandry.

Health Concerns

Watch for signs of respiratory infection, mites, dehydration, and poor shedding. Seek qualified reptile veterinary care if symptoms persist.

Final Thoughts

Ball Pythons thrive when their care remains stable, practical, and consistent. Paying attention to husbandry details prevents the majority of common problems.

Basic Setup Checklist

Item	Recommended
Thermostat	Required
Warm Hide	Required
Cool Hide	Required
Digital Thermometer	Required

Digital Hygrometer	Required
Humidity Range	55–70%
Warm Side Temp	88–92°F

Emerald City Reptiles

Committed to responsible Ball Python breeding, education, and practical husbandry.