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## Pet Chameleons



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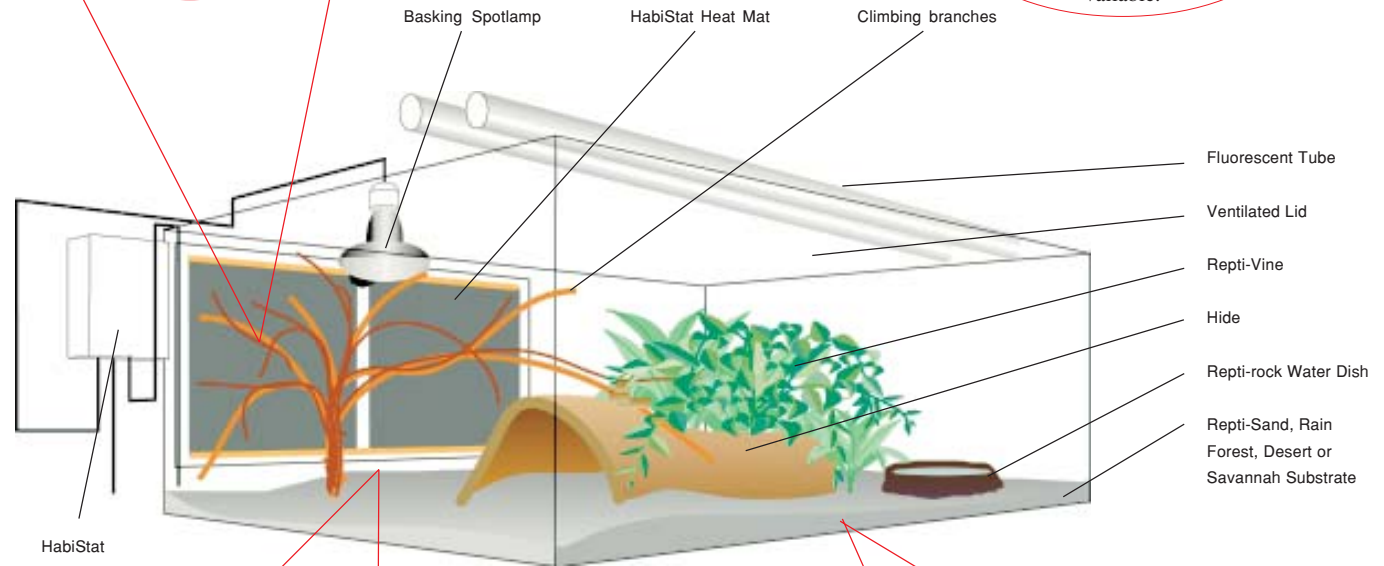
### Background Heat

Use a heat mat between half and two thirds the size of the cage to provide background heating. The hottest spot in the cage should not be above 32°C while the coolest should not be below 25°C. Use a *HabiStat Mat - Stat* if the temperature is too hot but put the whole cage in a cooler place if the temperature is not cool enough.

**Food:** Crickets, Locusts, Mealworms, and as a special treat Waxworms. Supplement livefoods by dusting insects with *Repton* or feeding *Cricket Diet Plus & Mealworm Diet Plus*. Tame individuals may also accept a commercially prepared, fresh meat reptile diet and thawed rodent pups. Water should be fresh and changed every day. A few chameleons may also eat an amount of fresh leafy salads and flowers.

### Cleanliness and Hygiene:

A routine cleaner for all non-porous surfaces could be *Vetaclene*. Anything that cannot be easily cleaned should be thrown away and replaced. Any little graze or blemish on the animals themselves would benefit from the first aid afforded by dabbing the wound with *Vetadine*. As far as human hygiene is concerned, *Vetasept Surgical Scrub* will clean hands and surfaces while *Vetasept Hand Rub* will allow adequate cleansing and disinfection even in cases when water is unavailable.



A Cage Suitable for Chameleons

### Hot Spot

A local area of higher temperature can be created with a Basking Spotlamp or a ceramic heater. Use the former in conjunction with a *HabiStat Dimming* thermostat and the latter with a *HabiStat Pulse Proportional* thermostat for precise control. Hot spots should be maintained for the same day length as the lights, sixteen hours in summer, eight in winter.

**Cage Decor:** *Repti-Sand, Desert, Savannah or Rain Forest Substrates*, all used as a dry cage base. These will blot up and 'clump' any fouling by the lizards. Clumps of waste can then be removed without cleaning the whole tank out. Climbing branches and *Cork Bark Logs* could be used to make an interesting three dimensional display. Draping *Repti-Vines* in the cage will provide refuges the lizards can hide in or move through to loosen shedding skin. *Repti-rock* caves and water dishes would lend even more functionality and security.

### Cage Set Up

The cage should be set up to allow an active lizard plenty of scope to climb, bask in a hot spot, move to a cooler spot, drink and hunt for food. The lizards should also be able to secrete themselves into refuges and rub themselves against something when shedding their skin.