# Crested Gecko

*Correlophus ciliatus*

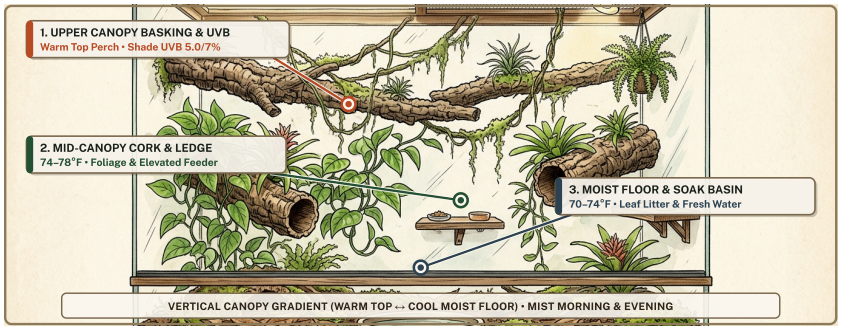
**The Quick Version:** With their goofy eyelash ridges and velvet-soft sticky toes, Crested Geckos are one of the easiest reptiles you can keep! They come from cool, humid treetops in New Caledonia — meaning they love comfortable room temps and eat a powdered fruit-and-bug smoothie mix!



| LIFESPAN | ADULT SIZE | ACTIVE HOURS | ADULT TANK | TEMP RULE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 15–20+ Years | 7–9 Inches | Night (Nocturnal) | 18×18×24"+ Tall | 70°–80°F (Never >83°F!) |

## 1. Tall Jungle Setup & The Mist-and-Dry Cycle

HEIGHT, LEAFY CLUTTER & KEEPING TEMPS UNDER 82°F ARE EVERYTHING!




**Top Branch Warm Spot**
Gentle warmth at the top — NEVER let the tank pass 83°F! **78°–80°F**

**Daytime Room Temp**
If you're comfy in a t-shirt, your Crested Gecko is comfy! **72°–77°F**

**Evening Mist Spike**
Mist heavily at night so they can lick water off leaves **80–90% RH**

**Daytime Dry-Out**
Let the tank air out to 50–60% by afternoon (prevents mold!) **50–60% RH**

**Nighttime Temp Drop**
Lights off at night; cool drop down to 66°F is totally fine **66°–72°F**

## 2. Two Ways That Work — Pick What Fits Your Home

SHORT & SWEET: BOTH OPTIONS WORK GREAT

### Bioactive Jungle vs. Simple Setup

Crested Geckos spend 90% of their life up off the floor in branches and leaves:

**OPTION A: LIVE-PLANTED BIOACTIVE TANK**
Drainage balls, tropical soil, leaf litter, sturdy live Pothos/Schefflera plants, and our **Dwarf White Isopods**, **Powder Orange/Blue**, or **Zebra / Cubaris Isopods + Tropical Springtails** that eat poop and mold for you!

**OPTION B: SIMPLE CORK & SILK VINE SETUP (GREAT FOR BABIES)**
Damp paper towels for tiny babies (so you can make sure they're pooping!) or coco/soil bedding, packed top-to-bottom with cork tubes and fake vines.

### Low-Level UVB vs. Standard LED

Because powdered Complete Gecko Diet already has Vitamin D3 mixed right in, you can go either route:

**OPTION A: 5%–7% SHADE UVB + PLANT LED**
Gives a gentle natural UV boost for strong bones and makes live plants grow like crazy.

**OPTION B: SIMPLE DAY/NIGHT LED LIGHT**
As long as they're eating quality Complete Gecko Diet (CGD) and calcium-dusted bugs, a regular low-heat LED light works great.

### Do You Need a Heat Bulb?

**Big No-No:** overheating above 83–84°F is way more dangerous to Crested Geckos than being a little cool!

**OPTION A: NORMAL HEATED HOUSE (72–78°F)**
Skip heat lamps completely! Normal indoor room temperatures are right in their sweet spot.

**OPTION B: CHILLY WINTER ROOM (UNDER 68–70°F)**
Use a tiny 25W–40W nano ceramic heat emitter or low-watt bulb on a **thermostat** set to 78°F at the very top screen.


Flip Over for Page 2: Feeding Schedule, Team Tips & Grab-and-Go Checklist →

## 3. Feeding Guide: Fruit Smoothie Cups + Weekly Bugs

FAIR WARNING: THEY LOVE TO WALK THROUGH THEIR SMOOTHIE & PAINT THE GLASS!

| | |
|---|---|
| **Babies** 0–12 Mos (<15g) | **Fresh Smoothie Daily + Small Bugs 1–2×/Week:** Mix powdered Complete Gecko Diet with water until it looks like ketchup in a magnetic ledge cup. Offer 2–4 small calcium-dusted crickets or roaches weekly for faster growth. |
| **Adults** 12+ Mos (35–55g) | **Fresh Smoothie Every 2–3 Days + Bugs Weekly:** Put a fresh cup in at dusk 3×/week (toss old food after 24 hrs) plus 3–5 dusted bugs once a week. |
| **Big No-No** Never Feed | **Skip Human Baby Food & Jelly Pots:** Fruit baby food has zero calcium and causes rubbery bones (MBD) fast! Stick to real formulated Crested Gecko Diet. |

### Favorite Flavors & Bugs on Our Shelves:

- **Insect-Blend Smoothie Mix** — Fig & Insect, Growth/Breeding, Fruit w/ Bugs
- **Tropical Fruit Blends** — Watermelon, Apricot, Papaya, Banana
- **Small Crickets & Roaches** — Triggers their hilarious nocturnal pounce
- **Magnetic Ledge & Cups** — Keep food up high where they actually hang out!

**Don't Dust the Smoothie!** Powdered Complete Gecko Diets are already mathematically balanced with calcium and vitamins — only dust their **live bugs** with calcium powder before feeding.

## 4. Tips, Tricks & Big No-Nos from Our Reptile Team

REAL-WORLD HABITS THAT KEEP THEM THRIVING

### Let It Dry Between Mists

Keeping the tank sopping wet 24/7 grows mold and causes skin/breathing issues. Mist well at night (80–90%), then let it air out to 50–60% during the afternoon!

### Pack the Top 70% Full

Give them plenty of horizontal branches and vines across the top half of the tank. If they sleep hanging upside-down on bare glass every day, their tail weight can bend their hips ('Floppy Tail').

### 'Frog-Butt' Tail Fact

Unlike Leopard Geckos, if a Crested Gecko drops its tail when spooked, **it never grows back!** Almost all wild adults are cute 'frog-butts' and live totally normal, happy lives.

### Treadmill Hand-Walking

Crested Geckos are jumpers! Sit over a bed or couch and let them hop from one flat hand to the other like a little treadmill — never squeeze them.

## 5. Grab-and-Go Setup Checklist

ASK US ON THE FLOOR — WE'LL HELP YOU MATCH EVERYTHING!

### TALL TERRARIUM & CANOPY CLUTTER

- [ ] 18"×18"×24" or 24"×18"×36" Front-Opening Tall Terrarium
- [ ] Cork Bark Tubes, Horizontal Branches & Hanging Vines (Pack 70% Full!)
- [ ] Magnetic Feeding Ledge + Spare Plastic Ledge Cups
- [ ] Hanging Coconut Hut Hide & Small Ground Water Dish

### MISTING, SOIL & LIGHTING

- [ ] Pump/Spray Mister Bottle + Reptile Water Dechlorinator
- [ ] Digital Thermometer & Hygrometer Gauge
- [ ] Tropical Reptile Soil / Coco Fiber + Sphagnum Moss & Leaf Litter
- [ ] Optional: Canopy Plant LED & 5%–7% Shade T5 UVB

### SMOOTHIE DIET & LIVE BUGS

- [ ] Powdered Complete Crested Gecko Diet (Grab 2 Flavors to Rotate!)
- [ ] High-Protein Insect-Blend Formula (Great for Growing Babies)
- [ ] Live Small Crickets or Dubia Roaches
- [ ] Reptile Calcium Powder (for dusting live bugs only)

### A Quick Note from Our Team — Keep Learning & Ask Us Anytime!

The quick version: there's more than one right way to set up a great enclosure! As long as your temperatures, humidity, and diet are dialed in, your pet doesn't care whether its cave is fancy resin or a terra-cotta pot. Bringing home this critter is a **15–20+ year commitment** — use these two pages as your home-base cheat sheet, watch what your pet tells you with their daily behavior, find a good local exotic vet, and call or stop by the shop anytime you have questions!

**MY GECKO'S INFO**

Name / Morph: _____

Current Diet: _____

Date Adopted: _____