INSIDE FLAP • KEEPER HABITS

4 Keys to Long-Term Health

Small Daily Habits That Prevent 95% of Vet Visits

Strictly One Per Tank!

All Kingsnakes and Milksnakes (*Lampropeltis*) are natural snake-eaters in the wild. Never put two snakes in the same tank or hold two snakes at the same time!

Clip That Screen Lid

They have strong, wedge-shaped noses built for prying under rocks — always use metal screen clips or locking front doors.

Blue Eyes = Shed Week

When their eyes turn cloudy blue, skip handling and mist their moss cave daily until the old skin rolls off in one clean piece.

Flat Cork Bark Trick

Lay 1 or 2 flat slabs of natural cork bark right on top of the bedding — Milksnakes love wedging themselves flat under bark even more than dome caves!

Taming 'Zippy' Babies: In the wild, a baby Milksnake is a colorful noodle that everything wants to eat — so babies can be wiggly, buzz their tail tip in dry leaves like a tiny rattlesnake, or musk when first scooped up. Don't worry! Two calm 10-minute hand-walking sessions a week turns them into total sweethearts.

BACK COVER • TAKE THIS TO THE AISLE

Grab-and-Go Setup Checklist

LOCKING TANK & BEDDING

- [ ] 20-Gal Long (Baby) or 40-Gal Breeder Terrarium
- [ ] Heavy-Duty Metal Screen Clips or Door Lock
- [ ] Shredded Aspen Snake Bedding OR Reptile Soil / Cypress Mulch
- [ ] Flat Cork Bark Slabs & Leafy Ground Clutter

HEATING & THERMOSTAT

- [ ] Digital Thermostat (Mandatory for All Heating Devices!)
- [ ] 50W–75W Basking Bulb / DHP OR Under-Tank Heat Mat
- [ ] Digital Thermometer & Hygrometer Gauge

CAVES, BOWL & MICE

- [ ] 2 Snug Caves (Warm & Cool) + Enclosed Humid Moss Cave
- [ ] Sphagnum Moss (for inside the humid shed box)
- [ ] Heavy Ceramic Water Dish + Water Dechlorinator
- [ ] Stainless Steel Feeding Tongs + Frozen Mice

MY MILKSNAKE'S INFO & FEEDING LOG

Name / Morph: _____

Gotcha Date & Weight: _____

Current Feeder Size & Day: _____

Critter Cabana & Cascade Pet Supply

Questions about heating, shedding, or a picky eater? Stop by or call our reptile team anytime — we're here for the full 15–22+ year commitment!

CRITTER CABANA & CASCADE PET SUPPLY • CARE GUIDE

Pueblan Milksnake

Lampropeltis triangulum campbelli



The Quick Version: Sporting bold ruby-red, jet-black, and cream-white rings (harmlessly copying venomous coral snakes so birds leave them alone!), Pueblan Milksnakes are hardy, manageable 3-foot snakes from rocky Mexican hillsides that eat like champions.

QUICK VITAL STATS AT-A-GLANCE

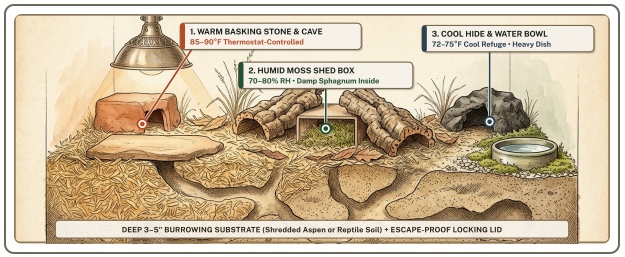
LIFESPAN **15–22+ Years**	ADULT SIZE **2.5–3.5 Feet**
ACTIVE HOURS **Dusk & Night**	ADULT TANK **40-Gal Breeder**
RULE #1 **Strictly 1 / Tank!**	

OPEN FOR TANK SETUP, TEMPS, FEEDING & SHOPPING LIST →

STEP 1 • HABITAT & CLIMATE

Escape-Proof Tank & Warm-to-Cool Setup

Strictly Solo (They Eat Other Snakes!) + Tight-Locking Lid



Warm Hide / Basking Spot Regulated by a digital thermostat	**85°–88°F**
Warm Side Air Temp Comfortable Mexican hillside warmth	**80°–84°F**
Humid Moss Cave Keep damp sphagnum moss inside for smooth sheds	**70–80% RH**
Cool Side & Tank Air Dry, breezy room air with a heavy water bowl	**70°–75°F | 40–55%**
Nighttime Temp Drop Lights off at night	**66°–72°F**

Thermostat & Gauge Rule: Stick-on dial gauges can be off by 10°F+! Use a digital probe thermometer/hygrometer and always plug heating mats and heat emitters into a **digital thermostat**.

STEP 2 • STOCKED STORE OPTIONS

Two Ways That Work

Pick Option A or Option B Based on Your Home Setup

Heating: Belly Heat Mat vs. Overhead Bulb

Milksnakes are secretive burrowers that digest fast when given a steady 85–88°F warm zone:

OPTION A: UNDER-TANK HEAT MAT + DIGITAL THERMOSTAT (OUR TOP PICK)

Because Milksnakes spend most of the day tucked under flat caves, belly heat on a thermostat set to 86°F works like a charm.

OPTION B: 50W–75W BASKING BULB OR DEEP HEAT PROJECTOR

Warms a flat rock and the air above it — great for 20-gallon and 40-gallon glass tanks.

Bedding: Shredded Aspen vs. Reptile Soil/Cypress

Give your Milksnake 3–4 inches of loose bedding to tunnel through:

OPTION A: SHREDDED ASPEN SNAKE BEDDING

Stays dry, holds tunnels well, and makes their bright red-black-white bands pop!

OPTION B: REPTILE SOIL OR CYPRESS MULCH MIX

Awesome for naturalistic tanks and holding steady humidity when house heaters dry out the air in winter.

Lighting: Shade UVB vs. Simple LED

Since whole mice already supply 100% of their calcium and Vitamin D3, either lighting option works:

OPTION A: LOW-OUTPUT SHADE UVB (5%–7%)

Makes their crimson and cream rings glow and encourages dusk exploring.

OPTION B: SIMPLE DAY/NIGHT ROOM OR LED LIGHT

Works great as long as they get a clear day/night cycle and pitch darkness at night.

STEP 3 • DIET & NUTRITION

Feeding Guide (Frozen/Thawed Mice)

Awesome Eaters! Pick a Mouse 1 to 1.25× as Wide as Your Snake's Mid-Body

Babies Every 5–7 Days	**1 Thawed Pinky to Small Fuzzy Mouse:** Babies burn calories fast! Step up to fuzzies as soon as a pinky disappears without leaving a belly bump after 24 hrs.
Sub-Adults Every 7–10 Days	**1 Hopper to Weaned Mouse:** Thaw in the fridge, warm up in a sealed Ziploc bag (~98°F; never microwave or refreeze), and offer with tongs.
Adults Every 10–14 Days	**1 Adult Mouse:** Feeding one adult mouse every 10–14 days keeps adult Milksnakes lean and healthy.

Big Rules for Milksnake Keepers:

- **1. NEVER House Together!:** Kingsnakes & Milksnakes eat other snakes — 100% solo!
- **2. Use Feeding Tongs:** Milksnakes love food and will eagerly charge dinner
- **3. Wash Hands First:** Don't handle your snake right after touching mice
- **4. 48-Hr Digestion Nap:** Leave them alone for 2 full days after every meal

First-Week Rule: Give your new Pueblan Milksnake **5 to 7 days of peace and quiet** in its new tank before handling or offering its very first meal so it can map out its hides and feel safe!