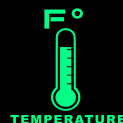


Common Snapping Turtle



- Tank Temperature: This turtle needs a basking spot that hangs around 90F and an ambient temperature of about 80F - 86F.
- Water Temperature: The water temperature should be maintained between 75F - 78F. However, hatchlings need a slightly higher temperature range between 78F - 80F.
- Heat Lighting: These guys will need a 50 watt bulb for when they are young and inhabit a 10 gallon tank. Additionally a 50 or 75 watt water heater will be sufficient to heat the water in their 10 gallon tank.
- UVB Lighting: A 13 watt 5.0 UVB is good for this species and helps mitigate vitamin deficiencies.



Their water should be dechlorinated and carefully monitored. Good water is the most important health factor for your turtle. Tanks should be typically filled no more than a third of the way, with plenty of plastic floating plants.



These guys should be fed twice daily when they are under 6 months of age and should be fed every other day when they are older than 6 months. It is important that their food is left in the water for them to get and that all food be sprinkled with a multivitamin. However, their food should be calcium dusted only three times a week for adults and daily for hatchlings. Food: earthworms, crickets, snails, crayfish, pelleted diet, water hyacinth, red leaf and green leaf lettuce



- Enclosure Size: These turtles can start out in a 10 gallon tank as babies, but as they age they will need progressively larger enclosures.
- Substrate (Bedding): The best option for this guy is to go without any substrate. However, you can use gravel (large enough to not be swallowed) or driftwood and plants can be placed at the bottom of the tank.
- Accessories: hide area, artificial or real plants, floating log or rock.



These turtles are best for intermediate to advanced keepers. These guys can grow up to 18 inches and weigh up to 35 pounds. Snapping turtles feature an aggressive temperament, powerful jaws, and a large size. These factors make caring for one of these guys a large challenge. We recommend beginners look for something else.



These turtles breed when they are about 6 inches in length. The mating season is between april and may. This means that they will lay up to 24 eggs in either may or june and prefer to lay them in sand or rotten vegetation. You can expect the eggs to hatch, roughly, 93 days after they are laid.



Depending on their size, they have a bite force of 45 to 150 pounds per square inch.



Found from Southern Canada to Western Ecuador

