**Chamaeleo calyptratus calyptratus**
**Veiled (or Yemen) Chameleon**

**Chameleon Academy Care Summary**

For detailed information visit https://chameleonacademy.com/veiled-chameleon-care

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**Cage Size**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minimum</th>
<th>2’ x 2’ x 4’ or 36” x 18” x 36”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ideal</td>
<td>4’ x 2’ x 4’ or Greater</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One chameleon per cage

"Forest Edge" Style

Live plants

MUST have suitable perching branches behind plants where chameleon can hide entire body from your view and block UVB light from above

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For a detailed explanation of each section of this Care Summary, and even more information about Veiled Chameleons, you can scan this QR code to be taken directly to the webpage.
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Temperature

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DayTime</td>
<td>72 - 78°F / 22 - 25°C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NightTime</td>
<td>55 - 65°F / 13 - 18°C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basking</td>
<td>85°F / 29°C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Humidity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Humidity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DayTime</td>
<td>40% - 50% RH¹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NightTime</td>
<td>80% to 100% RH²</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹Ensure that branches and surfaces dry daily
²Provide air movement to avoid stagnant air

UVB

- X” + Y” distance is from UVB bulb to back of chameleon through a 70% penetration screen top panel of the cage.
- X” + Y” distance is average compromise over bulb lifetime. Use Solarmeter 6.5 for exact measurements.
- Bulb must have a dedicated reflector.

Technology Bulb Strength X Y
T5 HO Linear 5.0 or 6% 2” 4”
T5 HO Linear 10.0 or 12% 6” 6”

Hydration & Lighting

Mister cycles are 1-2 minutes in length

Feeding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Growing or Gravid</td>
<td>Every day</td>
<td>No Limit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>Every other day</td>
<td>3-5 Feeders</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Chamaeleo calyptratus calyptratus**  
Veiled (or Yemen) Chameleon

**Chameleon Academy Breeding Summary**

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**Breeding Stats**

- **Sexual Maturity**: 5 Months<sup>1</sup>
- **Reproduction**: Egg Laying
- **Clutch Size**: 20-100<sup>2</sup>
- **Gestation**: 1 month
- **Incubation Temp**: 76°F / 24°C
- **Incubation Time**: 6-12 Months

<sup>1</sup>Wait until 8+ months to breed  
<sup>2</sup>&lt;30 eggs is healthy. 30+ eggs is a result of overheating/overfeeding

- Females prone to egg-binding due to overfeeding  
- Egg-binding (dystocia) from excessive clutch size and swollen fat pads  
- Observe feeding frequency and basking temperatures before mating to maintain healthy size

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**Laying Bin**

**Substrate:**  
- 50% organic soil  
- 50% playsand

**Soil Depth**: 4” - 5”

**Visual privacy during laying!**

**Consult website for breeding details**

- Optional: sprinkle sand on surface so disruption shows laying spot.
- Optional: tape black trash bag to clear bin for laying.

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**Baby Raising**

Raise in smallest groups possible  
Individual raising is ideal  
Heavily planted  
Feed as much as babies will eat  
Beware of excessive heat/UVB

**Consult website for hatchling care**

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**Male/Female Comparison**  
**Hatchling Male Hind Spur**  
**Adult Male Hind Spur**

**Gravid Female Coloration**  
**Hatchling Female Hind Foot**  
**Adult Female Hind Foot**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Symptoms</th>
<th>Treatment</th>
<th>Prevention</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Metabolic Bone Disorder (MBD)</td>
<td>Improper body growth and function due to calcium deficiency.</td>
<td>Bowed legs, unable to hold body up, weakened bone structures, curved elbows, misaligned jaws, sunken casque</td>
<td>Correct husbandry. Vet care to rehabilitate damage</td>
<td>Proper calcium intake and UVB lighting (or Vit D3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burns</td>
<td>Caused by excessive heat from basking bulb</td>
<td>gray scarring, black areas, open sores</td>
<td>lower basking temperature. Vet care to rehabilitate damaged areas</td>
<td>Measure basking temperature at back level and do not let it get above recommended basking temperature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obesity</td>
<td>Excessive fat on body which can lead to unhealthy body and egg binding (Dystocia)</td>
<td>overall rotund appearance, swollen casque, clutches of over 30 eggs</td>
<td>reduce food intake.</td>
<td>3-4 food items every other day except baby or gravid females.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dystocia (Egg Binding)</td>
<td>Female is unable to lay developed eggs inside her.</td>
<td>female showing distress during egg laying</td>
<td>Vet care necessary to spay female</td>
<td>3-4 food items every other day except when females are actively gravid.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closed Eyes/Internal Distress</td>
<td>When chameleons have internal distress they close their eyes.</td>
<td>Eyes are closed or sunken in during the day</td>
<td>Consult vet for accurate diagnosis.</td>
<td>Proper husbandry and fecal check for parasites</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Care sheets are just starting points

A care sheet represents the ideal conditions, as we currently understand them, that have worked for the widest number of that chameleon species. This is an average. Your chameleon is an individual in your unique environmental conditions. Therefore, it should be no surprise if something needs to be adjusted as you observe your chameleon's behavior. Does he want the basking bulb on for longer? Does he need more hydration? Use this care sheet only to establish your initial parameters, but then listen to what your chameleon is telling you! These parameters are meant to get you started, not to lock you in to certain numbers. Your chameleon is the expert in what chameleons need! But make sure you fully understand the situation before changing the parameter. This is where constant study of chameleon language is imperative for successful long term chameleon keeping.

Further Research Opportunities

Each Chameleon Academy care summary has a website link that will take you to a deeper discussion regarding each parameter. This is the first step to deeper understanding of the parameters. The rest of the website will then provide more context. The Chameleon Academy outreach includes the Chameleon Academy Podcast with over 250 episodes interviewing the top keepers, breeders, veterinarians, and scientists in the world. This podcast is available on any major podcast playing app, a dedicated free Chameleon Academy iTunes/Google Play app, and on the https://ChameleonAcademy.com website. You may also consult the Chameleon Academy YouTube channel for video tutorials.

Breeders, Influencers, and Groups

These care summaries are meant for community use. You are welcome to use these care summaries, unaltered, on your websites, Facebook groups, or any other application which calls for chameleon care information. If you use Chameleon Academy care information then you may refer any questions you may get about the parameters listed here to me. If the question is not answered in my website details then I will answer it personally.

Conflicting Husbandry Advice

There are diverse experiences in the community and each person can speak only to what they know. Therefore, you will find conflicting advice throughout the community. Your best approach to dealing with these differences is to do your research into the person you trust the most or is directly involved with helping you. The most obvious choice is to follow the advice of the breeder who is helping you with your first chameleon. Do not worry if other people (or even I) say differently. Follow your chosen person until you are comfortable enough with chameleon keeping that you can decide on a different approach.