



All Creatures Animal Hospital

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Tortoises As Pets

Average Lifespan: 10-50 years

Diet

- Varied leafy greens, fruits, and vegetables should be given daily to your tortoise.
- Vitamin and calcium supplements should be given daily.

Grooming/Bathing

- A lukewarm bath will be required 2-3 times per week.

Housing Recommendations

- Tortoises can range in sizes, but as a rule the larger the tortoise, the larger the enclosure needs to be to accommodate exercise.
- Outdoor enclosures provide a more suitable environment for your tortoise as natural sun, shade, plants can be provided.
- Protection in outdoor enclosure from predators must be provided.

Annual Exam Recommendations

- This time spent with our exotic veterinarian allows us to form a preventative plan for your pet. We can analyze your current husbandry and make suggestions.
- Fecal examinations check for internal parasites.
- Physical examinations by our veterinarian are needed to assess your tortoise's health.

Senior Screening

- Blood work may be recommended if sickness is suspected in your older tortoise.

Common Medical Conditions

- Shell infections, such as shell rot, or even shell fractures can occur causing widespread shell damage and pain to your turtle.
- Internal parasites can occur causing loss of appetite, weight loss, and/or diarrhea.
- Vitamin A deficiency is a common disease in turtles fed the wrong diet. Symptoms include skin changes, lack of appetite, lethargy, eye and nasal discharges, and/or abscesses.
- Respiratory bacterial infections can occur along with vitamin A deficiency, causing eye and nasal discharge.
- Abscesses also occur along with vitamin A deficiency which appear as hard tumor-like swelling on your turtle's body.