

Taking Care of Painted Turtles

Rules of Thumb

- Your tank should have...
 - Water Filter
 - Heater
 - UV Lamp
 - Water atleast as deep as the turtle is wide (deeper if possible)
 - Water area atleast as wide as twice the turtle's size (wider if possible)
 - Basking area (land out of the water), approximately 25% of the tank size
- All items in your tank must be greater than 2cms in diameter
- Replace the water in the tank atleast once a week
 - You can add 1 teaspoon of table salt for every 5 liters water to prevent bacteria
- Clean rocks under running water every 7-10 days
- Scrub Rocks & Tank with a toothbrush under running water once a month
 - Don't use clorox or acid, it soaks in and can poison your turtles
- Gravel (like in your fish tanks) is a strict NO! NO! for your turtle tank, because:
 - If your turtle eats a small stone this can lead to fatal choking
 - Turtles create more solid waste than fish, and the waste gather under it
- Young turtles should be fed daily, Older turtles once every 2 or 3 days
 - Turtles must be fed under water, they need water to swallow
 - Feed your turtle in a seperate tank that is atleast as warm as their normal tank
 - Turtles are messy eaters and will otherwise dirty your tank with food parts
 - Turtles create waste shortly after eating, so leave them in after for a while
 - Feed your turtle as much as he/she will eat in 45 minutes
 - Feed your turtle a variety of foods, not just the same food over & over again
 - Young turtles are generally more carnivorous, older turtles get herbivorous
 - Ex: crickets, earthworms, aquatic snail, fruits & vegies, & commercial pellets