

Cornsnake

Latin Name	<i>Pantherophis guttatus</i>
Native to	United States
Maximum Length	4–6 feet
Life Span	10–15 years
Enclosure	Use locking screen top terrarium, 40 gallon or larger for multiple young snakes, a single adult, or paired females. Provide at least two hiding areas such as a half-log or cork/wood shelter.
Substrate	orchid bark (ReptiBark), cypress mulch (Forest Floor), aspen, reptile carpet
Temperature	day 75–79°F, basking 85–88°F, night 72–75°F infrared heat lamp, ceramic heat emitter
Light	diurnal UVA fluorescent lamp (NaturSun or ReptiSun) for 10–12 hours daily
Humidity	ambient When shedding, mist inside shelter to create a humid zone.
Water	Provide purified water in a heavy ceramic bowl.
Food	carnivorous ▲ Feed in a separate container, such as a closing box or clean deep trash can. Feed young snakes weekly: 1 pinkie mouse Feed adult snakes weekly: 1–2 adult mice or increase size to rats
Shed Cycle	every 4–8 weeks
Sexing	Maturity reached at 18–24 months (2–3 feet long). male: tail portion after cloacal scale is thick and long, tapering at very end female: tail portion after cloacal scale is short and tapers quickly ▲ While probing the cloacal scale is more accurate for sexing, there is a high risk of causing serious injury to the snake. (Not recommended for beginners.)
Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Remove waste, spot clean substrate.■ Clean water bowl and replace water.■ Feed mice or rats weekly.