



Warranwood Veterinary Centre

The Best of Care for People and their Pets

Purchasing your first reptile?

Owning a Reptile can be an amazing experience.

Here are some things to consider:

- **Take your time before buying.** Think what species is suited for you. Remember that some reptiles can grow to a very large size – do you have space and money to build a large enclosure?
- **Owning a reptile is a long term commitment.** Many reptiles can live for decades. Do not consider buying a reptile unless you are prepared to look after it properly for its life.
- Ideally purchase and set up the vivarium (reptile enclosure) several weeks before you take the reptile home.
- Reptiles are not a low maintenance pet. It takes time and effort to look after them. If you cannot spend time to care for a reptile don't buy one.
- **Preventative health** is the key to a happy, healthy reptile. Allocate time and money for keeping your reptile healthy.
- **A pre-purchase veterinary examination** is a worthwhile investment. Think of a pre-purchase examination of being a bit like buying a used car – you would want a mechanic to check the car before purchase wouldn't you?
- **Regular veterinary health checks.** Allocate time and funds to have regular health examinations for your reptile with a reptile veterinarian. This can save you a lot of money in the long run.

Are you a long term reptile owner or expert herpetologist?

Good news – we can help! The Warranwood Veterinary Centre can provide you with preventative health programs, investigation into outbreaks of disease, and long term management plans for your reptile collection.

Your Reptile Veterinarian

Warranwood Veterinary Centre 03 9879 0900