

# INFORMATION

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## Short Guide to Keeping **CRABS**

We stock two varieties of crab; Red Crabs and Rainbow Crabs. Red crabs are fairly small and grow to approximately 1.5" - 2", whereas Rainbow crabs can grow up to 5". The two species should not be mixed but crabs of the same species may be housed together. They both have a life span of up to 2 years on average. Your pet crab will benefit from the addition liquid calcium to its aquarium as this helps to keep the shell in good condition. Occasionally, your crab may damage its shell or even lose a leg in a fight with another crab.



Rainbow Crab

Should the unfortunate happen, calcium will help in the repair/regrowth of the shell or leg. Only a few drops are required, once a week.

You should handle your crab, only when absolutely necessary. Rainbow crabs have large, powerful claws and are best moved using a net, however, red crabs, although much smaller can also give you a nasty nip.

### DIET:-

Crabs are scavengers and will eat almost anything. Turtle food is ideal as it contains a wide range of ingredients, vitamins and minerals. Sinking pellets, fish foods, live and frozen food such as bloodworm and daphnia are also suitable.

### HOUSING:-

Both varieties are tropical, so will require a heater, set to approximately 26 degrees C to maintain the correct water temperature. They should be kept indoors, in a tank with a secure lid... Crabs are good climbers and will escape if the opportunity arises. They are semi-aquatic, so require an area of water and a dry basking area. Use rocks, ornaments and plants to build up and out of the water.

The water requires filtration and frequent changing. Use a kit to test the water quality and waste levels. Alternatively, we will test your water for you. Remember, any tap water used should be treated to remove the chlorine. Shell rot can quickly appear if the water is not kept clean and in good condition.

Crabs may be kept with fast moving top or middle dwelling fish, however, they will try to catch the fish and will eat them if they do. It is not advisable to house crabs with catfish, bottom dwellers, fancy/long finned fish or poor swimmers.



Remember, crabs are messy eaters, so avoid over-feeding ... 3-4 times a week is adequate. It is advisable to place food on the dry, basking areas to avoid polluting the water.

*All livestock at All-In-One Garden Centre have a 7 day guarantee. A valid receipt is required along with a satisfactory water quality test*