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When buying a reptile

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Article published on February 10th 2012 | Business

When buying a reptile, one of the most important decisions to make is the type of housing they are to be kept in. The main two types of homes available for the most commonly kept species of reptiles are wooden vivariums and glass terrariums. However, there are a few big differences between the two types of reptile housing which should be carefully considered to ensure that you choose the correct new home for your pet.

When it comes to temperature control, wooden vivariums keep the heat in much more effectively than glass terrariums. The woods works as an insulator and helps to keep in any heat from electrical equipment such as heat lamps and heat mats, and also works to prevent the temperature from the outside environment heavily affecting the temperature inside the vivarium. This means that it is much easier to keep a consistent temperature in your reptile's home, and this is essential for reptiles that are dependent on a constant temperature for their health. It also means that they are much more cost efficient as it is cheaper to keep them warm. Glass terrariums allow heat to pass through the glass which does prevent heat building up, and may be better suited to reptiles that prefer a cooler climate.

It is also important to consider the durability of the type of reptile home you are purchasing. Wooden vivariums are ideal for homes with small children or pets, as they are much more sturdy and able to resist small bumps and knocks without becoming damaged. Glass terrariums however are fragile, and can easily be shattered and cracked accidently, which can leave your pet homeless and leave you having to pay the costs of purchasing a new terrarium.

Another distinct advantage of a wooden vivarium versus a glass terrarium is that vivariums are much easier to modify. For glass terrariums, you often need to purchase special equipment to allow you to attach even the most basic of reptile products such as heat lamps and bulbs, which can significantly add to the cost of the initial set up. Wooden vivariums on the other hand are very customizable, and it is incredibly easy to drill holes and fit simple bulb holders and to install other items such as water fountains and heat mats with ease.

Finally, you should consider cost when choosing your reptile's new housing. Depending on your budget, the type of housing can greatly affect the price. Glass terrariums tend to be more expensive than their wooden counterparts, so this means that you can usually purchase a vivarium for a cheaper price which actually offers much more usable living space, benefitting your reptile.

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Article Keywords:
Dog Toys, Dog Food, PetSupplies

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