# Peacock Tree Frog

The peacock tree frog is a nocturnal amphibian.

These frogs have two different colour phases, where they are a vibrant green and white and the other phase is a duller but still attractive brown phase. They are commonly found in the forest areas of Tanzania.

Other common names include the bird-eyed tree frog, Amani forest treefrog or the vermiculated tree frog.



## Glossary

**Reptile** - A cold-blooded vertebrate with scaly skin.

**Amphibian** – A cold-blooded vertebrate that begins life as an aquatic animal and grows into a terrestrial adult with lungs.

Terrestrial - A ground dwelling animal.

Arboreal - An animal that lives in trees.

**Diurnal** – Awake in the day.

Nocturnal - Awake during the night.

UVB - Ultraviolet radiaton.

Colubrid - A family of snakes.

Hybrid - Offspring from animals of different species.

Morph - Colourations created due to genetics.

**Musk** – Unpleasant odour released when an animal is stressed or feels threatened.

### Live plants are only available on special order

If you require any further information, please ask our pet care advisors who will be very happy to help.

#### **Opening Times**

Monday – Saturday: 9am – 6pm Sunday: 9.30am – 4pm

### **Chessington Garden Centre**

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# Peacock Tree Frog



Care & Advice Sheet

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### Size & Housing

Female frogs will usually reach a length of 5-6cm while males are likely to stay between 3-4cm. In some cases the males may reach 5cm but it is unlikely. These frogs are arboreal and will benefit from a taller enclosure. Standard aquariums with screen covers can be used but we recommend the Exo Terra or Komodo reptile tanks:

30 x 30 x 45cm / 12 x 12 x 18" - Minimum for 1 Adult 45 x 45 x 45cm / 18 x 18 x 18" - Minimum for 2-3 Adults



### Handling

Like most amphibians, peacock tree frogs are best kept as display animals as they have very delicate skin. When handling is necessary such as cleaning out the enclosure, make sure your hands are wet or use powder-free gloves.

### Substrate & Furnishings

The simplest option for substrate is paper towels as this is easily replaced and inexpensive. For a more natural looking enclosure, soil based substrates such as humus bricks can be used and topped with a layer of moist sphagnum moss or similar. This will help maintain humidity. These frogs will also bury themselves in soil substrates so do not panic if you don't see them all the time.

Perches such as branches and artificial plants should be provided as the frogs will often sleep on the leaves during the day. Hanging artificial plants or thick standing live plants are popular choices. Spot pick the enclosure daily and once or twice a month full clean the enclosure as amphibians are prone to illness from excess waste in the environment.

Please Note – Not all live plants are amphibian friendly

# Lighting & Temperature

A day and night cycle should be provided by the use of reptile UVB bulbs. A low percentage UVB is ideal such as the 5 or 10% arcadia tubes to provide sunlight and this is best placed on a timer for 10–12 hours a day.

Temperatures should range between 25°C and 30°C and this can be achieved by using a reptile heat

bulb or ceramic heat emitter controlled by a thermostat at all times. The temperature can drop at night to a minimum of 18°C. If the temperature drops more, a moonlight heat bulb is recommended to heat the enclosure instead as this emits very little light and can stay on during the night.

A heat guard must be used on any heat source within the enclosure as the frogs may sleep on it and burn themselves.

### Food & Water

These frogs are insectivores and feeds solely on live food. Depending on the size of your frog, live food options include:

- Crickets
- Locusts
- Roaches
- Waxworms (treat)

Juvenile frogs should be fed daily while adult frogs require small amounts every day or 2. Fresh water should be provided daily in a large dish as they will soak and often defecate in the bowl at night. They should be misted daily to provide humidity levels of 50-75%.