



Top Mistakes New Bearded Dragon Owners Make

❌ No Thermostat on Heat Source

- Without a **thermostat**, heat sources can overheat and cause burns or heat stress.
- Use a **thermostat** to regulate basking temperatures and keep your dragon safe.



❌ No UVB or Incorrect UVB Setup

- UVB is essential for calcium absorption and prevents serious health problems.
- Use a **T5 HO UVB tube** (Arcadia 12% or ReptiSun 10.0) mounted at the correct distance (10–14").



❌ Incorrect Diet

- Only feeding insects or the wrong foods can cause nutritional deficiencies and obesity.
- Offer a **balanced diet**: mostly leafy greens, veggies daily, and insects in moderation.



❌ Too Small of an Enclosure

- A small enclosure limits movement and can cause stress and behavioral issues.
- Provide a **minimum 4'x2'x2'** enclosure for adults to thrive.



❌ No Proper Basking Spot

- Without a proper basking area, dragons can't regulate their body temperature.
- Provide a **basking spot** with a surface temperature of 95–110°F.



❌ Not Using Calcium or Vitamins

- Lack of calcium and vitamins can lead to serious health problems like MBD.
- Use **calcium** (with & without D3) and a **multivitamin** – dust feeders and offer greens daily.



❌ Using Colored Lights

- Colored lights can disrupt sleep cycles and damage your dragon's eyes.
- Avoid colored lights**. Use white light for basking and regular white light for day viewing.



✅ Handling Too Soon

- Handling too early can cause stress and slow your dragon's adjustment.
- Allow your dragon to settle in for 1–2 weeks** before handling.



Proper care starts with the right information – and we're here to help every step of the way.

Need more help? Check out our **Setup and Feeding Guides** for detailed, step-by-step care.