



# Guide to moving house with reptiles

How you move house with a reptile - be it snake, lizard, gecko or bearded dragon - will depend on the species and the size, contents and location of the tank.

Moving reptiles isn't rocket science, but it can add to the stress of moving home if you don't plan ahead and make the right preparations. By following a few simple steps you can make the move more enjoyable.

The guidance here is of a general nature because the precise way in which you should move reptiles will depend on the particular reptiles you have.

We advise contacting a vet and/or specialist retailer who can provide qualified advice with regard to your specific pet and set up.

## Key points to bear in mind

- Make sure your reptile is healthy before you move
- Plan the move of your reptile on a different day to moving everything else.
- Get your resources in place: cloth bags, foam-lined boxes, bubble wrap, buckets for sand, heat packs, and blankets for cushioning.
- Use containers with plenty of ventilation but that are secure - snakes are notorious escape artists and will try to sneak through even the smallest of gaps.
- Avoid feeding the animal within 12 hours of moving, and try to avoid fluids during that time to help prevent their soiling their bag / container and substrate en route.
- Think about the temperature of the vehicle you'll be using to move your reptile and how long the trip will be. It's best to avoid moving a reptile during very cold or hot spells.
- Will your reptile prefer light or darkness? Some species prefer to be kept in the dark.
- Make setting up your reptile's tank - and settling them in - your top priority once you arrive at your new house.
- Above all: seek expert advice from your local specialist.

And if you're thinking of moving further afield, to another country perhaps, then it's well worth checking out our FAQ about moving with pets abroad on our website or simply give us a call on 0800 521 541.