

# Sulcata Tortoise: A Comprehensive Guide to Everything You Need to Know

## General Information

The Sulcata tortoise (*Centrochelys sulcata*) is the third largest species of tortoise in the world, behind only the Galapagos tortoise and the Aldabra giant tortoise. It is native to the Sahel region of Africa, which includes countries such as Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, and Sudan. Sulcata tortoises are herbivores and their diet consists primarily of grasses, leaves, and fruits. They are long-lived animals, with an average lifespan of 50-100 years.



## Sulcata Tortoise as Pets: Sulcata Tortoise General Info, Purchasing, Care, Cost, Keeping, Health, Supplies, Food, Breeding and More Included! The Ultimate Care Guide for Sulcata Tortoise by Lolly Brown

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 1688 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
X-Ray : Enabled  
Print length : 128 pages  
Lending : Enabled



Sulcata tortoises are sexually mature at around 15-20 years of age. Females lay 1-3 clutches of eggs per year, with each clutch containing 10-

50 eggs. The eggs incubate for 120-180 days, and the hatchlings weigh around 1 ounce.

## **Purchasing a Sulcata Tortoise**

Sulcata tortoises are available for purchase from a variety of sources, including pet stores, breeders, and online retailers. When selecting a tortoise, it is important to choose a healthy animal that is free of any diseases or injuries. It is also important to make sure that the tortoise is the right size for your home and that you are prepared to provide it with the proper care.

The cost of a Sulcata tortoise will vary depending on its age, size, and health. A baby tortoise will typically cost between \$100 and \$500, while an adult tortoise can cost anywhere from \$500 to \$2,000.

## **Care of a Sulcata Tortoise**

Sulcata tortoises require a warm, dry environment with plenty of space to roam. They should be provided with a large enclosure that is at least 10 feet long, 10 feet wide, and 2 feet high. The enclosure should be well-ventilated and should provide the tortoise with access to both sun and shade.

Sulcata tortoises also require a diet that is rich in calcium and fiber. Their diet should consist primarily of grasses, leaves, and fruits. They should also be given a small amount of commercial tortoise food once or twice per week.

Sulcata tortoises are relatively low-maintenance pets, but they do require regular care. They should be bathed once or twice per month, and their

shell should be checked for any signs of damage or disease. They should also be taken to the veterinarian for regular checkups.

### **Cost of Keeping a Sulcata Tortoise**

The cost of keeping a Sulcata tortoise can vary depending on the size of the enclosure, the type of food, and the frequency of veterinary visits. However, the average cost of keeping a Sulcata tortoise is between \$500 and \$1,000 per year.

### **Health of a Sulcata Tortoise**

Sulcata tortoises are generally healthy animals, but they can be susceptible to a variety of health problems, including respiratory infections, shell rot, and parasites. It is important to take your tortoise to the veterinarian for regular checkups to ensure that it is healthy.

### **Supplies for a Sulcata Tortoise**

In addition to a large enclosure, food, and water, Sulcata tortoises will also need a variety of other supplies, including:

- A heat lamp
  
- A UVB light
  
- A thermometer
  
- A hygrometer
  
- A hide box

- A water bowl
- A food bowl
- A calcium supplement

### **Food for a Sulcata Tortoise**

As mentioned above, Sulcata tortoises should be fed a diet that is rich in calcium and fiber. Their diet should consist primarily of grasses, leaves, and fruits. They should also be given a small amount of commercial tortoise food once or twice per week.

Here is a sample diet for a Sulcata tortoise:

- Monday: Grass, leaves, and fruit
- Tuesday: Commercial tortoise food
- Wednesday: Grass, leaves, and fruit
- Thursday: Commercial tortoise food
- Friday: Grass, leaves, and fruit
- Saturday: Commercial tortoise food
- Sunday: Grass, leaves, and fruit

You can adjust this diet to meet the specific needs of your tortoise. It is important to make sure that your tortoise is getting enough calcium and

fiber. You can also give your tortoise occasional treats, such as pieces of apple or banana.

Sulcata tortoises are amazing animals that can make great pets. They are relatively low-maintenance, but they do require a large enclosure and a diet that is rich in calcium and fiber. If you are considering getting a Sulcata tortoise, be sure to do your research and make sure that you are prepared to provide it with the proper care.



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