



[info@aeacarizona.com](mailto:info@aeacarizona.com)

Address: 7 E. Palo Verde St.,  
Suite #1  
Gilbert, AZ 85296

<http://www.aeacarizona.com>

Phone: (480) 706-8478  
Fax: (480) 393-3915  
Emergencies: Page (602) 351-1850

## Sugar Glider Care

### Stats:

- The sugar glider is a marsupial species native to New Guinea and Australia.
- Lifespan is 12-15 years.
- Nocturnal and live in colonies of 6-10 with one dominant male.
- Males mark territory with scent glands.
- Females have a pouch in which to raise their young.
- Males weigh between 100-160 grams, females between 80-130 grams.
- These agile climbers can use their patagium (gliding membrane) to glide up to 50m.

### Housing:

- The bigger the better. Minimum cage size is 36"X24"X36" with PVC coated wire. Wire spacing should not exceed 1.0"X0.5".
- Temperature range needs to be 75-80°F.
- Provide multiple food and water dishes high up in cage.
- Hang multiple fleece pouches high in cage.
- Place branches, wheels (no open rungs), and shelves throughout cage for exercise and play. Do not use wood shavings.

### Diet:

- Feed a pelleted sugar glider insectivore diet and Gliderade (a vitamin-enriched nectar supplement). Gliders require vitamin D3 in their diet.
- Supplement several times a week with gut-loaded insects, such as crickets and grasshoppers.
- Supplement calcium to growing, pregnant, and lactating sugar gliders.
- Fruits and vegetables should not comprise more than 5% of the diet. Too much of these items leads to obesity and metabolic disease.

### Socialization:

- Sugar gliders are highly social creatures that require being housed in groups of 2 or more.
- Optimal time to socialize with humans is 8-12 weeks out of the pouch.
- Spend at least 2 hours a day interacting with your glider.



[info@aeacarizona.com](mailto:info@aeacarizona.com)

Address: 7 E. Palo Verde St.,  
Suite #1  
Gilbert, AZ 85296

<http://www.aeacarizona.com>

Phone: (480) 706-8478  
Fax: (480) 393-3915  
Emergencies: Page (602) 351-1850

- Gliders are very vocal. They will be heard crabbing when frightened, barking when lonely or playful, purring when content, and may sneeze or hiss while grooming.

#### **Common Medical Problems:**

- Malnutrition and Obesity - Prevent with proper diet and exercise.
- Nutritional Osteodystrophy - Prevent with diet containing vitamin D3 and calcium.
- Gingivitis and Tartar - Prevent with regular feeding of insects (the exoskeleton helps remove tartar).
- Self-Mutilation and Hair Loss - Prevent by providing proper socialization, housing in groups of 2 or more, and having a large enclosure with plenty of opportunities for play.
- Eye Injuries - Monitor for squinting or discharge from eyes.
- Neutering of males is recommended to decrease aggression and self-mutilation.
- Annual physical exams with fecal checks are recommended.