

Reptile Handling Steps

Follow these safe reptile handling steps...
and enjoy your pets!

As with many other animals, reptiles carry *Salmonella* bacteria which can make people sick. To reduce the chance of infection, follow these safe reptile handling steps.

- Always wash your hands thoroughly after you handle your pet reptile, its food and anything it has touched.
- Keep your pet reptile in a habitat designed for it; don't let it roam around the home.
- Keep your pet reptile and its equipment out of the kitchen or any area where food is prepared.
- Don't nuzzle or kiss your pet reptile.
- Keep reptiles out of homes where there are children under 1 year of age or people with weakened immune systems. Children under 5 should handle reptiles only with adult/parental guidance. And, they should always remember to wash their hands afterwards.

Developed in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
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IMPORTANT!