shopping list
for needed supplies
- appropriately sized habitat
- book about rosy and sand boas
- substrate
- moss
- water dish
- hideaway place
- climbing décor
- plants
- heat light
- heat fixture
- under tank heater
- vitamin supplement
- thermometer
- humidity gauge

sources
Ask an associate about Petco’s selection of books on Rosy and Sand Boas and the variety of Petco Brand products available for the care and happiness of your new pet. All Petco Brand products carry a 100% money-back guarantee.

Because all snakes are potential carriers of infectious diseases, such as Salmonella, always wash your hands before and after handling your snake and/or habitat contents to help prevent the potential spread of diseases.

Pregnant women, children under the age of 5 and people with weakened immune systems should contact their physician before purchasing and/or caring for a snake and should consider not having a snake as a pet. Go to the Centers for Disease Control at cdc.gov/healthypets/ for more information about snakes and disease. Go to petco.com/caresheet to download other helpful Care Sheets.

This care sheet can cover the care needs of other species. See petco.com for more information.

Rosy and Sand Boa
includes rosy and sand boas

These attractive snakes are desirable because they are readily tamed. Captive bred Rosy and Sand Boas are usually very docile.

Rosy and Sand Boa facts:
average adult size: 2 to 3 feet long, depending on species
average life span: 15+ years with proper care, depending on species
diet: carnivore

Will reach adult size in 3-4 years, depending on species and under ideal conditions; upgrade habitat size as your snake grows.

Note: The information in this Care Sheet is not a substitute for veterinary care. If you need additional information, please refer to the sources on the following page or contact your veterinarian as appropriate.

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Care Sheet

Rosy and Sand Boa
includes rosy and sand boas

Developed with and approved by a qualified veterinarian.

**diet**

A well-balanced Rosy and Sand Boa diet consists of:
- Appropriate size frozen rodents, thawed/warmed to above room temperature.
- If feeding your snake live rodents, do not leave them unattended. Live rodents can injure the snake, sometimes fatally.

**housing**

- Size - appropriate size and shape habitat for an adult Rosy or Sand Boa to accommodate normal behavior and exercise, at least a 20 long tank.
- Substrate - aspen shavings, mulch-type such as coconut fiber bedding or reptile bark; dampened sphagnum moss. Avoid gravel and artificial turf (too harsh for skin).
- Habitat - provide a hiding area just large enough for your snake to fit inside and a branch or decor to climb on. Maintain 40-50% humidity; higher during shedding.
- Temperature - temperature gradient (90°F for the warm end and 70°F for the cool end); recommend radiant heat; use an incandescent light as primary heat source, use under tank heater as secondary source.

**feeding**

Things to remember when feeding your Rosy or Sand Boa:
- Feed juveniles once or twice a week, adults every one to two weeks.
- Feed in a separate tank so that your snake doesn’t associate your hand or the habitat being opened with feeding.

**hunting**

**grooming & hygiene**

Snakes will regularly shed their skin; ensure humidity of habitat is at appropriate level to allow snake to shed properly.

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**common health issues**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health Issue</th>
<th>Symptoms or Causes</th>
<th>Suggested Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dermatitis</td>
<td>Blisters, rapid shedding caused by an unclean habitat or one that is too cold or damp.</td>
<td>Consult your exotic animal veterinarian, clean the habitat and lower humidity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory disease</td>
<td>Labor breathing, mucus in mouth or nostrils. Can be caused by a habitat that is too cold or damp.</td>
<td>Consult your exotic animal veterinarian and keep snake warm and dry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stomatitis</td>
<td>White, cheesy substance in mouth, loss of teeth and appetite. If untreated, can be fatal.</td>
<td>Immediately consult your exotic animal veterinarian.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ticks and mites</td>
<td>Parasites on skin, can transmit disease.</td>
<td>Consult your exotic animal veterinarian.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*If you notice any of these signs, please contact your exotic animal veterinarian.*