# The Easy Guide On Everything You Need To Know About Box Turtle



BOX TURTLE: The Easy Guide On Everything You Need To Know About Box Turtle. by Judy Folger

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Box turtles are one of the most popular pet reptiles in the world. They are relatively easy to care for and can make great companions for people of all ages. However, there are some things you should know before you get a box turtle.

In this guide, we will cover everything you need to know about box turtles, from their natural history and biology to their care and feeding. We will also provide some tips on how to choose a healthy box turtle and how to avoid some of the common problems that can occur with these reptiles.

#### **Natural History and Biology**

Box turtles are native to North America. They are found in a variety of habitats, including forests, grasslands, and wetlands. Box turtles are

omnivores and their diet consists of a variety of plants and animals, including insects, worms, snails, and fruits.

Box turtles are known for their unique ability to withdraw into their shells. This is a defensive mechanism that helps to protect them from predators. Box turtles can also close their shells completely, which helps to keep them safe from dehydration and cold temperatures.

Box turtles are relatively long-lived reptiles. They can live for up to 50 years in captivity. In the wild, their lifespan is typically shorter, due to predators and other environmental factors.

#### **Care and Feeding**

Box turtles are relatively easy to care for. They require a terrarium that is at least 20 gallons in size. The terrarium should have a secure lid and should be escape-proof.

The terrarium should be decorated with a variety of hiding places, perches, and plants. The substrate should be a mixture of soil and sand.

Box turtles need a basking area that is heated to between 85 and 95 degrees Fahrenheit. The basking area should be large enough for the turtle to fit under completely.

Box turtles should be fed a diet that consists of a variety of plant and animal matter. Some good choices include:

\* Insects (crickets, worms, mealworms) \* Snails \* Fruits (berries, apples, bananas) \* Vegetables (lettuce, carrots, squash)

Box turtles should be fed once or twice a day. The amount of food you give your turtle will depend on its size and age.

#### **Choosing a Healthy Box Turtle**

When choosing a box turtle, it is important to choose a healthy specimen. Look for a turtle that is active and alert. The turtle should have clear eyes and a clean nose. The shell should be free of cracks or damage.

It is also important to quarantine a new box turtle for at least 30 days before introducing it to other turtles. This will help to prevent the spread of disease.

#### **Common Problems**

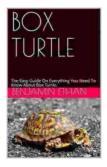
Box turtles can suffer from a variety of health problems, including:

\* Respiratory infections \* Shell rot \* Eye infections \* Digestive problems \* Metabolic bone disease

It is important to take your box turtle to the vet for regular checkups. This will help to ensure that your turtle is healthy and happy.

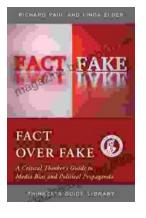
Box turtles can make great pets for people of all ages. They are relatively easy to care for and can be very rewarding companions. By following the tips in this guide, you can help to ensure that your box turtle lives a long and healthy life.

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