

# EGYPTIAN LONG EARED HEDGEHOGS

## BEHAVIORAL & PHYSICAL OVERVIEW & comparison to African Pygmy Hedgehogs



- Long Eared Hedgehogs are closer to wild than domesticated. Require consistent handling and interaction to keep tame.
- More advanced exotic to own and care for than the African Pygmy Hedgehog.
- Solitary, nocturnal animals like the African Pygmy Hedgehogs. More territorial.
- LEH are notoriously more aggressive than APH. When threatened or agitated, they are likely to be aggressive and bite, rather than back down and hide like an African Pygmy Hedgehog. Due to this, LEH are not recommended for children.
- Much more active than an African Pygmy Hedgehog. They would prefer to play rather than cuddle.
- Very interactive and intelligent. They enjoy playing with cat toys and other enrichment activities.
- Require lots of play time and time to roam outside of their enclosure.
- More agile than an African Pygmy Hedgehog and will climb.
- Overall appearance differs from the African Pygmy Hedgehog, as they:
  - Generally larger body size and carry themselves higher than the African Pygmy Hedgehogs.
  - Have larger ears than the African Pygmy Hedgehog that are not only used for hearing but also to assist in regulating their body temperature.
  - Have larger feet and longer nails than the African Pygmy Hedgehogs.
  - Coloration range from a tan brown to dark grey.
  - The fur on their underside is extremely soft.
- Life expectancy of 7 years or more, which is a longer life span than African Pygmy Hedgehogs

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## ENCLOSURE

- 10-12 sq. ft. Enclosure
- Temperature range 75-78 degrees preferred
- Ceramic heat emitter on a digital thermostat is recommended for heat control.
- They are climbers and this should be taken into consideration

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## DIET

- In addition to a nutritionally balanced kibble blend or Hedgehog Precision, supplemental proteins such as insects, meats, eggs. Raw & live foods are favored.
- Require lots of live insects! Raw meats or frozen mice. Fresh foods such as eggs and some fruits and vegetables.