

## Turtles For Tenderfoots

**Tips all new turtlekeepers need to know.**

*By Paul Demas*

Turtles are fascinating to watch, and many have attractive colors and markings, and interesting personalities. They can make great interactive pets. They are known for recognizing their owners and endlessly begging for food. It's all part of their charm.

However, a lot of work is involved in keeping a turtle. They are not like dogs and cats. Turtles don't enjoy being handled. They can easily live up to 20 or 30 years, and providing them with the proper enclosure as they grow can be a larger investment than you initially expected. By purchasing a turtle, you are making a commitment to their care — and doing so for the long haul.

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