

# Leopard Gecko

Nicolle Franco • March 2021



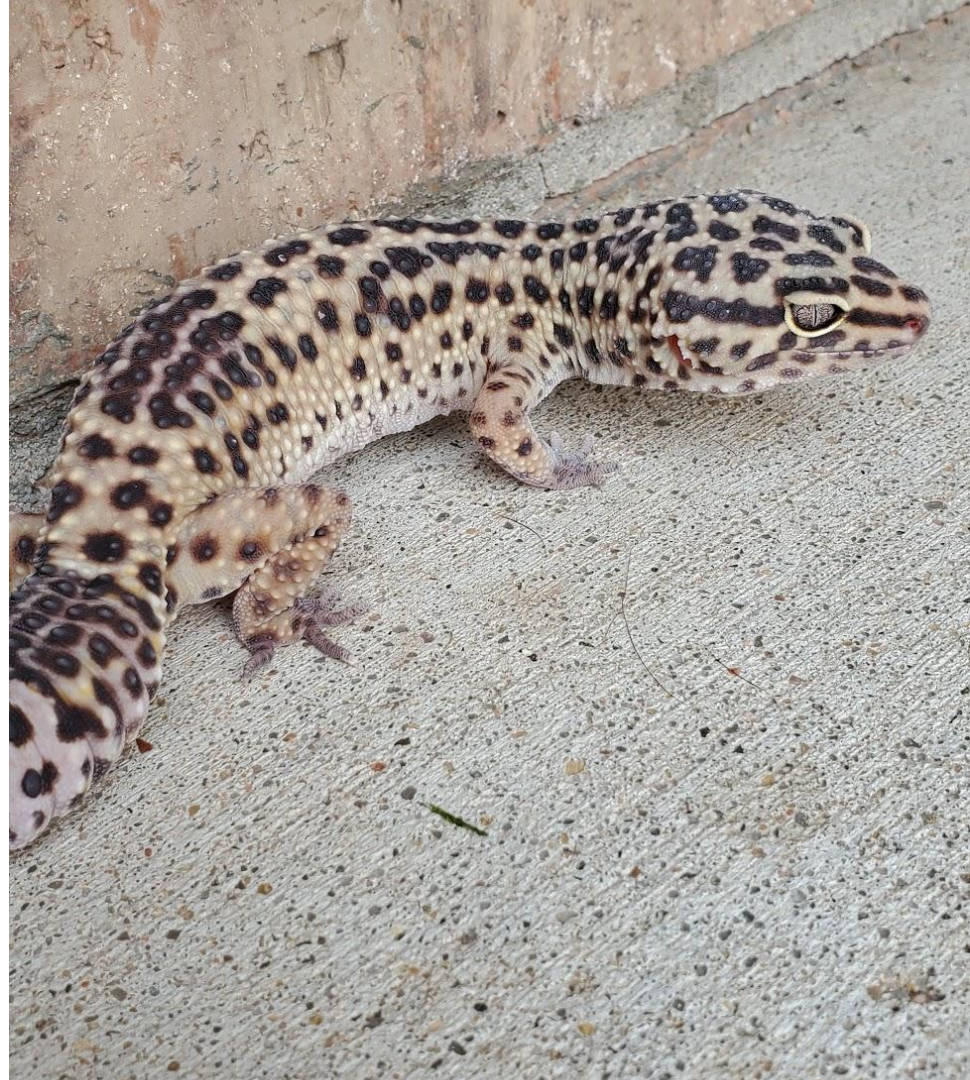
Leopard geckos are nocturnal ground-dwelling reptiles that are found in grassland desert regions of Iran, Pakistan, and Nepal.



- Leopard geckos are small creatures, a female is between 18 and 20 inches, while a male is between 20 to 28 inches in length. They can weigh up to 50–80 grams.
- Their name leopard comes from the black spots that cover the top of their body. The rest of their body varies in coloration from white, pink and yellow.



Unlike other lizards or geckos, the leopard geckos do not have adhesive fingers. Which makes it very difficult for them to climb smooth surfaces. For this reason leopard geckos are very well adapted to the ground and are master diggers.





Digging is a normal activity for many reptiles, leopard geckos are no exception. They dig in order to cool down from the sun's rays, escape from predators, scavenge for food and they dig burrows on the ground that become their homes.





Conservation status for leopard geckos least concern due to the fact that there are some threats that have cut their population numbers down.

Threats include habitat loss due to mining, body parts are used for local medicine, and they are also trapped and used in the exotic pet trade.

You can help these magnificent creatures survive in the wild by doing easy things, sometimes even in your own backyard.

- Boycott products and companies that destroy their habitats.
- Only get these animals as pets from certified breeders, and make sure you can take care of them.
- Keep wildlife as wild. If you see wild lizards or geckos do not disturb them.



# References:

- “Leopard Gecko Care Guide.” *PetSmart*, [www.petsmart.com/learning-center/reptile-care/leopard-gecko-care-guide/Aoo22.html](http://www.petsmart.com/learning-center/reptile-care/leopard-gecko-care-guide/Aoo22.html).
- “Leopard Gecko.” *San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance Animals and Plants*, [animals.sandiegozoo.org/animals/leopard-gecko](http://animals.sandiegozoo.org/animals/leopard-gecko).
- “Common Leopard Gecko.” *Common Leopard Gecko – Facts, Diet, Habitat & Pictures on Animalia.bio*, [animalia.bio/common-leopard-gecko](http://animalia.bio/common-leopard-gecko).