

Published based on [Breeding Snakes In Captivity](#)

# **Breeding Snakes In Captivity**

When you have had some success caring for captive snakes, you may find yourself interested in breeding them. This can be done, it needs record keeping and attention to many details concerning the living arrangements of the snakes. The breeding is generally done in the winter so that the babies are born or hatched in the spring.

Merely a fast note about deciding the sex of a snake. This talent should be learned from an expert. It is a tough process, infrequently requiring the utilising of a metal probe to look for the male reproductive organ. Even the most experienced of snake breeders make a mistake now and then.

Breeding snakes needs feeding them well for roughly four months, and then putting them into a cool state of hibernation. To do that, you first need to fatten them up, particularly females, for a few months in late summer, then lower the temperature for a couple more weeks or months. The precise timing varies with the species, as do the temperature wants.

During the hibernation, the snake is not fed, but is provided water. When the time is up, the snake is continuously warmed up, and fed well again for a little while. Then the female and male are placed together. If she resists him, separate them and wait another week. If not, leave them together for one week or so.

A female snake that's developing eggs within is named "gravid." Some types of snake eat well during this time and others don't. The period of time it takes varies even in the same species. Again, the amount of heat provided makes a difference. Most females will shed just before laying their eggs.

Pregnancy takes from 4 to 10 months. The mummy to be generally eats well in this time, but you must select smaller food stuffs, since her within body space is getting more crowded. Losing usually precedes giving birth, but it can be as much as another month before the birth. The litter size can go from 10 to as many as 80 for huge, robust females.

Some snakes give birth to live offspring instead of laying eggs. The boas are instances of this. The hibernation requirements for these tropical snakes are much less, amounting to just 2 weeks with low night temperatures. Their humidity desires are higher, and they ought to be misted daily. With boas, you are able to add more than one male to the female's enclosure.

Generally, snake babies should be removed and placed in separate containers coated with disposable towels. The disposable hand towels ought really to be kept clammy for the 1st two weeks. They may shed around this time, and can feed on pinkies or fuzzies (young mice) after the shed.

There might be a market for these young reptiles, and the method is certainly fascinating for the hobbyist. Do remember, though, that there are increasing numbers of pet snakes being pushed off into rescue shelters because the owners just can not deal with them any more. Be a responsible snake breeder, and make sure your young snakes won't just be more casualties.

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