

# Mole Kingsnake The Best Owners Guide: A Comprehensive Guide to Owning and Caring for Mole Kingsnakes



Welcome to our ultimate guide on owning and caring for mole kingsnakes. If you have ever considered keeping a mole kingsnake as a pet, or if you already own one and want to enhance your knowledge, this article is for you!

## **What is a Mole Kingsnake?**

The mole kingsnake, scientifically known as *Lampropeltis calligaster*, is a fascinating reptile species native to the southeastern United States. It is a non-venomous colubrid snake, also commonly referred to as the southeastern kingsnake.



## MOLE KINGSNAKE: The Best Owners Guide

by Mary Matthews (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

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The mole kingsnake is known for its distinct coloration, featuring a dark or black background with tan or yellowish crossbands. This pattern resembles the appearance of a mole, hence the common name. These snakes can grow up to 4.5 feet in length, making them a great choice for snake enthusiasts of all experience levels.

### Why Choose a Mole Kingsnake?

Mole kingsnakes are popular pets for several reasons. Not only are they visually appealing with their unique coloration, but they are also relatively easy to care for. Here are some factors that make them an excellent choice for reptile enthusiasts:

#### 1. Beginner-Friendly:

Mole kingsnakes are known for their docile nature, making them a great choice for first-time snake owners. Their calm temperament reduces the risk of aggressive behavior or biting, making them safer to handle.

#### 2. Low Maintenance:

Compared to other snake species, mole kingsnakes have relatively simple care requirements. They don't require as much space, and their diet primarily consists of small rodents like mice, making feeding convenient and affordable.

### **3. Unique Appearance:**

The striking coloration of mole kingsnakes sets them apart from other pet snakes. Their dark background with tan crossbands creates a visually appealing pattern that is sure to catch anyone's eye.

## **Essential Supplies for Your Mole Kingsnake**

Before bringing a mole kingsnake into your home, it's crucial to have the necessary supplies to provide a suitable habitat. Here are some essential items you'll need:

### **1. Enclosure:**

Choose a properly sized enclosure with a secure lid to prevent escapes. A 20-gallon tank is sufficient for an adult mole kingsnake, but providing a larger space is always better.

### **2. Substrate:**

Use substrates such as aspen bedding or reptile carpet to line the enclosure. Avoid using substrates that may cause respiratory issues, such as cedar or pine shavings.

### **3. Heating and Lighting:**

Mole kingsnakes require a temperature gradient within their enclosure. Provide a heating pad or heat lamp to create a warm side (around 85°F) and a cool side (around 75°F). Additionally, ensure they have a light source that follows a natural day-night cycle.

## **4. Hiding Spots:**

Include various hiding spots throughout the enclosure, such as caves, hollow logs, or commercial reptile hides. This allows the snake to feel secure and reduces stress.

## **Feeding and Care**

Proper feeding and care are essential for the well-being of your mole kingsnake. Here are some important factors to consider:

### **1. Feeding Schedule:**

Mole kingsnakes are carnivores and should be fed appropriately sized mice or rats. A general rule of thumb is to offer them prey items that are about the same width as the snake's thickest part. Young snakes require more frequent feedings, usually every five to seven days, while adults can be fed every one to two weeks.

### **2. Handling:**

Handling your mole kingsnake regularly will help it become accustomed to human interaction and reduce stress. Remember to wash your hands before and after handling to prevent the transfer of bacteria.

### **3. Health and Veterinarian Care:**

Monitor your snake's health and behavior closely. Look out for signs of illness, such as loss of appetite, lethargy, or respiratory issues. Regular visits to a reptile-experienced veterinarian are recommended to ensure your snake's overall well-being.

Owning a mole kingsnake can be a rewarding experience for reptile enthusiasts. Their stunning appearance, docile nature, and low care requirements make them an ideal choice for both beginner and experienced snake owners alike. By

providing proper housing, nutrition, and regular care, you can ensure a happy and healthy life for your mole kingsnake.

Remember, researching and educating yourself about the specific needs and requirements of mole kingsnakes is crucial before bringing one into your home. With the right care, you can enjoy the companionship of this beautiful and unique reptile for years to come.



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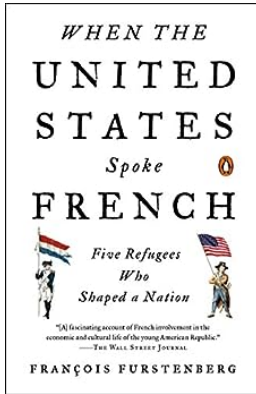
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Adult Mole Kingsnakes come in olive-brown or yellowish shading, for certain little reddish brown blotches towards its back. This pattern normally substitutes with smaller blotches that are noticeable on the sides. Each smudge includes a limited, dark line. They likewise have a stomach that is yellowish-brown in shading, with some brown spots



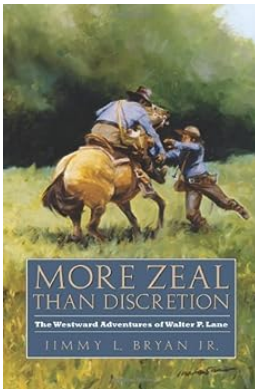
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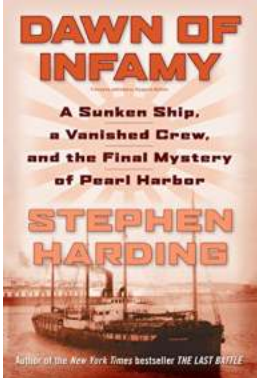
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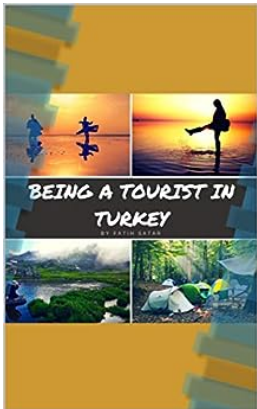
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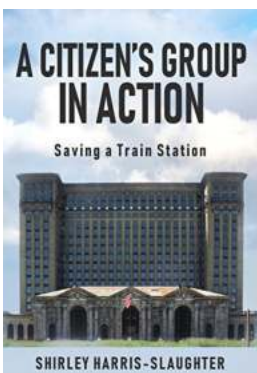
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