

Reviewed December 2024



RVC Exotics Service
Beaumont Sainsbury Animal Hospital

LIGHTING

- Turtles need daily exposure to full spectrum lighting (including UV-b light).
- Various UV lamps are available (see separate handout on lighting for reptiles), but for tortoises a lamp with a high output (e.g. 10-12%) should be used to mimic the strong sunlight of their wild environment.
- Lamps should be kept on for ~ 12 hours per day and at an appropriate distance from the turtle as recommended by the manufacturer.
- All lamps should be changed at least as frequently as manufacturer's instructions or checked regularly for their UV output.