

SHIPPING REPTILES VIA WWW.SHIPYOURREPTILES.COM

Shipping reptiles is a fairly simple process that many people overlook as being too difficult, and many people say that they can't ship, all because they have never learned, or have never had the opportunity. My hope is that by providing this document to the reptile community, it will encourage non-shippers to start shipping, providing new bloodlines across the nation and improving customer satisfaction across the board. Let me break it down.

Step 1- Sign up and become a user on www.shipyourreptiles.com

Step 2- Purchase appropriate shipping materials. I have included the minimum required items needed to ship. They are:

- Foam insulated shipping boxes(SYR sends foam with the boxes when you buy them)
- 40 hour or 70 hour heat packs (Purchased through SYR)(Can also use cold packs for higher temps)
- 1 roll of packing tape(Can be purchased through SYR, but any works)
- 1 overnight shipping label(purchased through SYR)
- 1 FedEx Reference note(Printed at time of label purchase)
- 1 reptile shipping bag or deli cup with sealable top
- 1 Sharpie pen



SYR also sells full shipping kits for the occasional shipper that include all of the previously mentioned items, and also some excess items that may or may not be needed.

Step 3- Although I mentioned it in the things to purchase section already, don't forget your shipping label. You can do it on your computer at home, and is completely necessary to have. SYR sells shipping at partially discounted prices, and it makes it very easy. All you need is a PC, a printer, paper, and a credit or debit card to pay. Get the person's address you are wanting to ship to, their name, and phone number, and you are ready to go. SYR has a form you fill out for the label, and it is all set up for you once you pay. It generally costs between 40-100 dollars depending on the size and weight of the box being shipped. **TO SHIP LIVE REPTILES, YOU MUST SHIP PRIORITY OVERNIGHT!!! IF YOU DO NOT, YOUR REPTILE WILL MORE THAN LIKELY PERISH!**

Step 4- Take one of your shipping boxes and tape up the bottom. I like to tape up all of the openings personally to provide more support to the structure of the box. Make sure you leave the top part open, as you still need to pack it.

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Step 5- Put in all of your styrafoam insulation pieces. The pictures above illustrate how this should be done step by step. Bottom first, then the side pieces. Again, leave the top open with the top piece off. Last picture is showing part of step 6.

Step 6- Take the plastic wrapper off of your heat pack. Shake up the heat pack and get the chemicals all mixed together to start the chemical reaction. Leave the heat pack red stripe up, inside of the shipping box for a couple of hours, just to make sure it is properly heating the space. You will want to put the styrafoam top on for this step to ensure the space is actually changing temps. A general rule of thumb is that these will heat a 1 sq ft space by 10 degrees, and they will hit a max temperature of 110 degrees, so when you pack, make sure they aren't directly in contact with the animal or the container/bag the animal is in, as it can burn them. A barrier can be created simply by placing a layer of newspaper or butcher paper in between the animal and the heat pack, or you can tape newspaper to the outside of the heat pack itself. You want to make sure that the red stripe on the heat pack is not covered by tape though, as oxygen is a necessary component for these heat packs to work. As you will see, I place the heat pack in the bottom of the box with a piece of butcher paper or newspaper over the top of it when the heat pack is warm and ready to go. It is recommended that outside temps do not exceed

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90 dg F, and do not go under 40 dg F in order to safely ship your reptile. Although you can successfully ship in more extreme temps, it is not recommended.

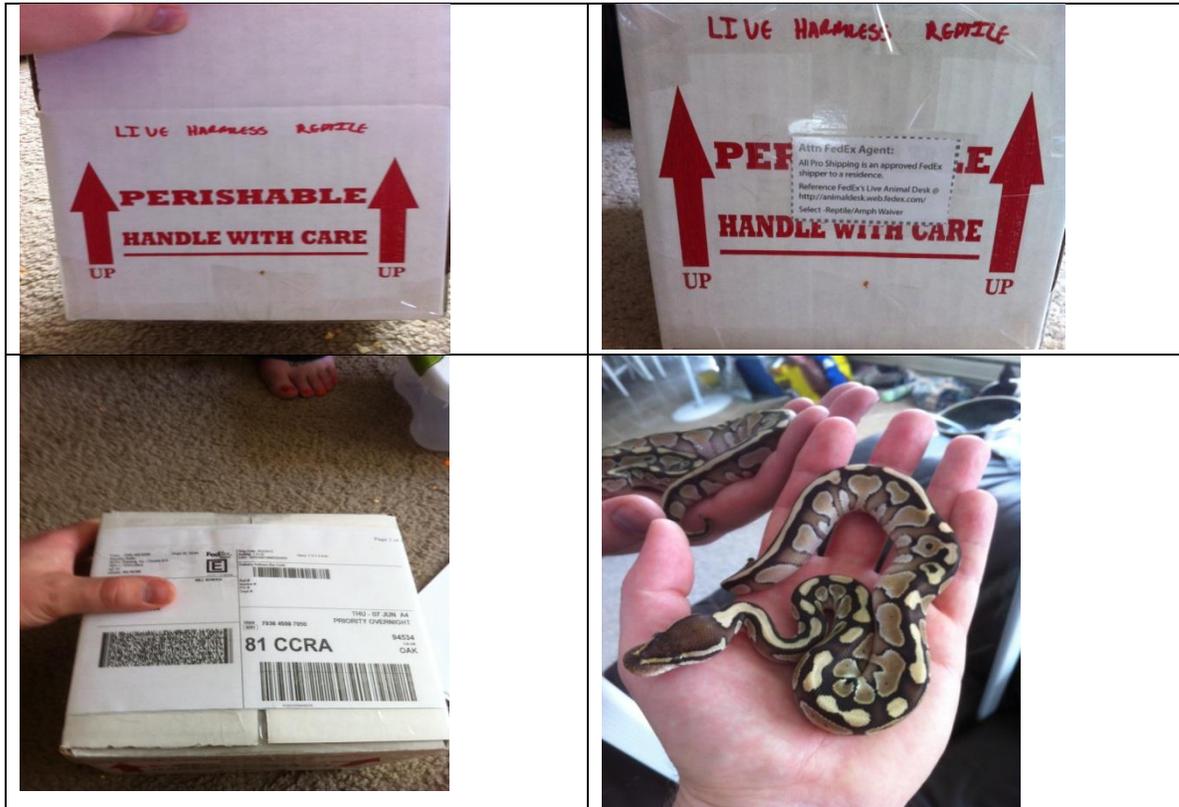
Step 7- Place the animal inside of the bag/container when you are ready, and make sure the animal cannot escape. After that, put the animal in the box. Pack the empty space with newspaper or butcher paper, to ensure that there will be as little movement as possible while the animal is on it's journey to his/her new owner.



Step 8- Put the styrafoam lid on top of the rest of your styrafoam to complete the insulated portion of your box. You then want to tape the top part of the box the same way you taped the bottom. Sorry I don't have a picture to represent this, however, you have a top and a bottom styrafoam piece to complete the insulation box. Make sure you put the top on before you close and tape the box.

Step 9- Using your Sharpie pen, write Live Harmless Reptile on the outside of the box. I like to write it on all sides, as you want to make sure that the shipping company knows that there are live animals inside. If we do this, for the most part, people will handle the packages more carefully to ensure the safety of our animals that are being shipped.

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Step 10- Tape the shipping label on top of the box, in such a way that all barcodes and addresses are visible. I like to cover the entire label with tape to make sure that it isn't going to be damaged by inclement weather or spilled liquid along the way. Then you also want to include the FedEx reference note that SYR gives you when you purchase the label. Just tape it on the box, and you are good to go!

Step 11- The last and final step is to take it to your local FedEx hub. At your FedEx hub, you will want to get a receipt when you drop the package off. This ensures that it has been processed, and is very necessary for your records in the case that anything unfortunate happens. You also want to make sure that you send the tracking number to the customer, and also keep it for yourself so you can see where the package is at during the shipping process. It is actually kind of neat to see where these little guys go. Ask the person receiving the package to let you know when the animal gets there, or require them to sign for the package, which also lets you know. If you pick the sign for the package option, there is an associated fee, and if the person is not there to sign for the package, it automatically is sent back to the FedEx hub and held there until the customer signs. Keep that in mind. After all is said and done, celebrate, because you just successfully shipped your first reptile!

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Well I really hope that this has helped some of you get started shipping! If you have any questions about shipping that weren't answered here, feel free to contact me, and I can help you out!

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