

Ultratherm[®]

Heat Mats & Strips

Installation and User Instructions

About Your Heater Mat

Ultratherm heat mats and strips have been manufactured in the UK for more than 20 years and comply with the European standards EN60335-1:2002+A15:2011 and EN60335-2-71:2003+A1:2007.

All mats and strips are IPX4, double insulated and are **CE** marked. The mats/strips have a surface power of 215W/m² and are designed to operate on a 230V~ supply.

Ultratherm heaters produce long wave infrared heat.

This wavelength is invisible to the human eye and heats the objects in the vivarium rather than the air directly. This method of heating is similar to the sun and reptiles absorb this heat in a manner very similar to basking in a natural environment. The surfaces of heat mats and strips do warm up but provide a very gentle warmth which the reptile can sit on or under.

Ultratherm heat mats should always be used with a suitable vivarium thermostat. For species which are particularly temperature sensitive or in environments which could be prone to overheating it is important that thermostats are used to provide full temperature control. If in doubt please consult an expert or purchase a suitable vivarium thermostat. For information on how to use Ultratherm heat mats with thermostats please refer to the thermostat manufacturer's user instructions.

It should be noted that Ultratherm heat mats provide a gentle background heat. For reptiles which require higher temperatures then an additional supplementary heater may be required. Many diurnal or day active lizard species require basking spots of higher localised heat. For these species additional heat sources should be provided. Ultratherm heaters are excellent primary heat sources for most applications requiring night time heating as they emit no visible light and are widely used for this purpose.

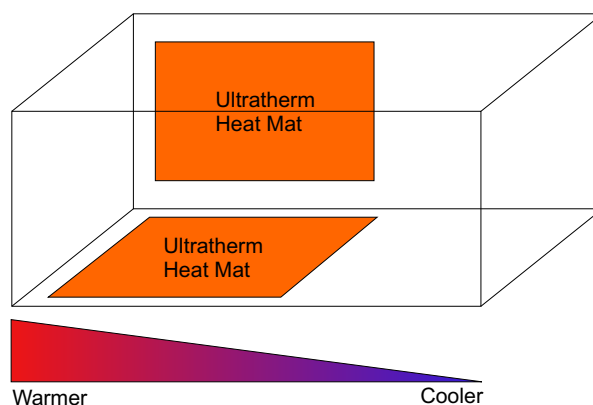
For most species of snake and invertebrate, Ultratherm heaters are an excellent sole heat source. However if in doubt please seek expert advice to determine the optimum heating requirement for the species.

Installation Guide

Please read these instructions carefully before installation.

This appliance is not intended for use by persons (including children) with reduced physical, sensory or mental capabilities, or lack of experience and knowledge, unless they have been given supervision or instruction concerning use of the appliance by a person responsible for their safety. Children should be supervised to ensure that they do not play with the appliance.

Most animals require a thermal gradient within their vivarium to allow them to move freely in and out of warmer and cooler areas. The heat mat should be positioned so that approximately between half and two thirds of the vivarium is being heated. The remaining unheated section allows the animal to move to cooler areas when required.



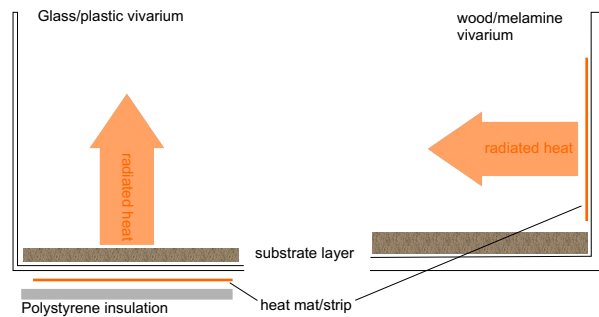
Positioning the mat at one end creates a thermal gradient

The heat mat can be installed either on the inside or outside of glass or plastic vivariums. In wood or melamine vivariums the heat mat must only be installed inside as these materials are good thermal insulators.

Heat mats can be used on the floor or mounted on the wall of the vivarium. If installed on the floor of the vivarium it is very important that if substrate is used that the depth is less than 1cm. Many commonly available substrates such as wood chips and vermiculite are very good thermal insulators and placing too much above the heat mat will reduce the heat transmission and could cause localised overheating. It is important that the mat is controlled using a suitable vivarium thermostat with the thermostat sensor attached to the surface of the mat using a suitable tape.

Installation guide continued...

To maximise the efficiency of the heat mats installed on the outside of glass or plastic vivarium it is recommended that a layer of 6mm polystyrene insulation be placed below or behind the mat. This will reduce the energy usage and direct the heat to where it is required.



Positioning the Ultratherm Heat Mat or Strip

If the heat mat is to be installed under a glass tank then it is very important that the substrate thickness is less than 1cm. Too much substrate is used localised overheating may occur which may cause the tank to crack. It is also important that a small piece of the polystyrene is removed to accommodate the heat mat terminal cover to avoid stressing the tank base and potential cracking. The tank must also be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

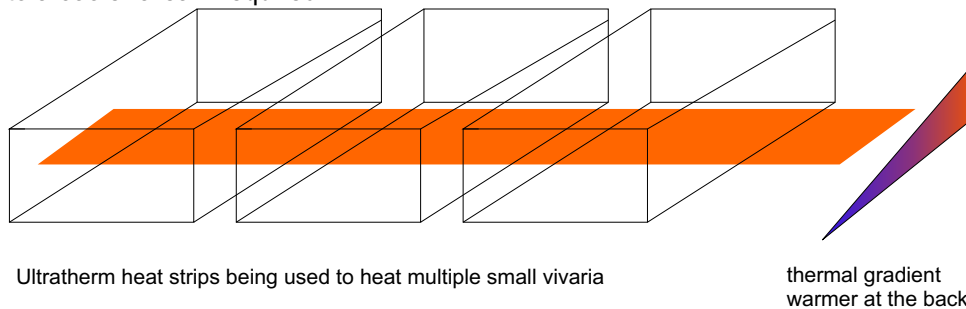
If burrowing species are being kept then it is important that the mat is installed on the back of the vivarium. This is the preferred installation for wood/melamine vivariums to allow the supply cable to be out of reach of the animals.

When installing the Ultratherm mat/strip inside the vivarium ensure that it is fixed securely to the floor/wall using a good quality waterproof tape attached to the clear edges of the mat. Low tack masking or insulating tapes are unsuitable and it is important that the mat cannot move and that the animals cannot get under or behind the mat. Care must be taken to ensure that no sticky tape is exposed on the tank floor as small snakes/reptiles may become stuck.

Ultratherm Heat Strips

Ultratherm heat strips are identical in construction to the larger heat mats and are manufactured in narrower widths for use in heating small snake boxes. The heat strips should be used in the same way as the heat mats, however it should be noted that small boxes can heat up quickly. It is therefore important that the temperature inside the box is monitored and if necessary controlled using a suitable thermostat.

When placing small boxes on top of the heat strip ensure that only approximately 50% of the box is heated to allow the animal to move to a cooler area if required.



Ultratherm heat strips being used to heat multiple small vivaria

thermal gradient warmer at the back

Important

With larger species such as boa constrictors, pythons and some lizards it is important to ensure that heat mats/strips installed inside the vivarium do not get saturated in liquid. These species may produce large volumes of waste fluid and care should be taken to avoid the mat being immersed.

The heat mat can be wiped clean using a damp cloth. However please ensure the mat is disconnected from the electrical supply before cleaning.

The heat mat/strip must not be pierced, folded, cut or reduced in size. Heat mats used to heat vivaria housing large monitor lizards, iguanas or any digging species should be installed on the wall to avoid damage.

Never install heating and leave unattended. Care should be taken to ensure the installation is correct and that the vivarium is being maintained at the desired temperature. Once installed the heating should be tested for a minimum of 48 hours before introducing the livestock.

If the heating is left unsupervised, the temperature must be limited via an appropriate thermostat with a probe placed in the centre of the heated surface! The temperature must not exceed the temperature required by the individual species of animals being kept, with the maximum being no higher than 60°C.

The supply cord shall be placed or protected so as not to be accessible by animals. If the mat/strip or supply cable is damaged then the unit must be disconnected from the supply and discarded. All heat mats/strips must be protected by a suitable fuse or circuit breaker.

The Ultratherm range of heat mats and strips are covered by a 24 month warranty from date of purchase. The warranty does not cover damage resulting from improper installation or use.

Fenix Trading s.r.o.
Slezská 2, 79001 Jeseník
Česká republika

Tel: +420 584 495 304
Fax: +420 584 495 303
Email: fenix@fenixgroup.cz
<http://www.fenixgroup.cz>