

Clownfish

Amphiprion spp, Premnas spp



CARE SHEET

Developed with and approved by a Qualified Veterinarian

Clownfish are small, colorful, and hardy marine fish. Clownfish are well known for living within the stinging tentacles of a host anemone, and are also called anemonefish. Recommended for beginning marine aquarists.



Is a clownfish the right choice for your aquarium?

Yes	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Check "Yes" or "No" after reading the following statements:

- I have room for an appropriate size aquarium.
- This clownfish would be compatible with my other aquarium inhabitants.
- I can commit to providing proper care for this clownfish.
- A mature person will provide responsible and primary care for this fish.

If you answered "Yes" to these statements, a clownfish may be the right choice for you! Continue reading about how to care for a clownfish and consult with a PETCO associate to learn more. PETCO is committed to responsible aquarium care.

Average Size 2 to 5+ inches long, depending on species

Life Span Up to 5+ years with proper care

Diet Food may be flaked, tablet, frozen, or live

Animal or plant matter

Avoid exclusive food which is not nutritionally complete

Feeding Depending on species and size, feed small amounts two to three times daily, no more than fish will eat in three to five minutes

Thaw frozen foods before feeding

Housing Two gallons or more per fish inch is recommended for saltwater aquariums with a minimum aquarium size of 30 gallons and appropriate filtration to maintain a stable environment

Saltwater fish require more space and better water quality than freshwater fish

Provide plants, rock, and décor for hiding places and plenty of room for movement

Water temperature should range from 75° F. to 82° F.

Salinity levels should range from 1.020 to 1.026

Stable water quality, water temperature, and pH levels are critical to the health of fish. If you are unsure of your water quality or pH levels, PETCO provides free water testing.

Recommended Supplies

- | | | |
|---|---|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate size aquarium | <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate food | <input type="checkbox"/> Filter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water conditioner | <input type="checkbox"/> Aquarium salt | <input type="checkbox"/> Décor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water test kit | <input type="checkbox"/> Aquarium cover | <input type="checkbox"/> Net |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thermometer | <input type="checkbox"/> Algae or algae sheets | <input type="checkbox"/> Airstone |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heater | <input type="checkbox"/> Full spectrum lighting | <input type="checkbox"/> Air pump |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrometer | <input type="checkbox"/> Protein skimmer | <input type="checkbox"/> Substrate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book about clownfish or marine aquariums | | |

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Characteristics Can be very territorial toward same species clownfish; like to hide in or near a cave or crevice, darting out to defend territory or capture food
Tend to remain in the middle and lower levels of the aquarium; most juvenile clownfish mature as males; when kept in pairs, the larger clownfish will become female
PETCO carries tank-raised clownfish, which are more hardy and colorful than those caught in the wild

Habitat Maintenance Check filter and other equipment daily
Check water quality and temperature at least once a week
Check salinity levels at least twice a week
Change 10–25% of the total volume of water every two to four weeks, or as needed
Introduce new fish to the aquarium gradually

Compatibility Compatible with dwarf and large angelfish, blennies, cardinalfish, damselfish, gobies, hawkfish, pseudochromis, puffers, and tangs
Can be compatible with other clownfish or wrasse
If possible, keep with the companion anemone

Signs of a Healthy Fish

- Clear eyes
- Active swimming
- Eats vigorously
- Clean in appearance

Common Health Issues

Health Issue (alpha)	Symptoms or Causes	Suggested Action
Fin Rot	Frayed or disintegrating fins; the base of the fins usually reddens	Improve water quality; commercial antibiotics may be effective
Marine Ich	Cysts on fins, gills, and skin; fasting; cloudy eyes; labored breathing; excess skin mucus; or pale skin	Treat entire aquarium with a copper-based parasite remedy and improve water quality; freshwater dips can dislodge the parasites

Signs of Illness

- Loss of appetite
- Listlessness
- Spots or fungus on body or mouth
- Labored breathing

If you notice any of these signs, test water quality and improve as necessary, or contact your veterinarian.

Preventing Common Health Issues Avoid crowded conditions; they are a major cause of stress and disease
Maintain good water quality with regular water changes and adequate filtration

Sources *Clownfishes* by Joyce D. Wilkerson
The New Marine Aquarium by Michael S. Paletta
The Tropical Marine Fish Survival Manual by Gordon Kay

Note: The information on this Care Sheet is not a substitute for veterinary care. If you need additional information, please refer to the above sources or contact your veterinarian as appropriate.