

African Dwarf Frog

Hymenochirus curtipes



CARE SHEET

Developed with and approved by a Qualified Veterinarian

African dwarf frogs originated in the rivers and streams of central Africa. These fully aquatic amphibians never need to leave the water. African dwarf frogs can be kept with larger community fish. Their colors can range from olive green to brownish green.



Is an African dwarf frog 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 African dwarf frog would be compatible with my other aquarium inhabitants.
- I can commit to providing proper care for this African dwarf frog.
- A mature person will provide responsible and primary care for this frog.

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

Average Size 2½ inches long

Life Span Up to 5 years with proper care

Diet Bloodworms and brine shrimp (live or frozen)
Sinking fish food pellets

Feeding Needs to be supplied food, and will also scavenge
Feed every other day
Thaw frozen foods before feeding

Housing African dwarf frogs should be kept in a 10-gallon or larger aquarium
The aquarium should have a secure cover to prevent jumping
Provide plenty of hiding places
Water temperature should range from 72° F. to 82° F.

Stable water quality, water temperature, and pH levels are critical to the health of frogs. 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"/> Brine shrimp | <input type="checkbox"/> Light |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water conditioner | <input type="checkbox"/> Bloodworms | <input type="checkbox"/> Net |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water test kit | <input type="checkbox"/> Sinking food pellets | <input type="checkbox"/> Filter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thermometer | <input type="checkbox"/> Décor | <input type="checkbox"/> Airstone |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heater | <input type="checkbox"/> Substrate | <input type="checkbox"/> Air pump |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book about freshwater aquariums | | <input type="checkbox"/> Aquarium cover |

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- Characteristics**
- Swim away from catching attempts
 - Need hiding places
 - Will sit in front of the current created by the filter
 - Will scavenge for food and eat almost anything

- Habitat Maintenance**
- Check filter, other equipment, and water temperature daily
 - Check water quality at least once 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**
- Can be kept with large, relatively docile fish that will not attempt to eat them, such as community tetras or loaches
 - Can be kept with other African dwarf frogs of both sexes

- Signs of a Healthy African Dwarf Frog**
- Swims actively
 - Eats vigorously
 - Remains in the bottom half of the aquarium
 - Hides often
 - Clear eyes and smooth skin

Common Health Issues

Health Issue (alpha)	Symptoms or Causes	Suggested Action
Bacterial Infection	Cloudy eyes, open sores, and/or reddening of the skin	Improve water quality and use appropriate antibacterial medicine; seek veterinary advice
Fungal Infection	Red inflammation of the skin, or any other abnormal change in skin color	Quarantine frog immediately; treat with malachite green-based medication

- Signs of Illness**
- Loss of appetite
 - Does not swim away from capture
 - Hazy or cloudy eyes
 - Floating to the top of the aquarium

If you notice any of these signs, test water quality and improve as necessary

- 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**
- The ASPCA Complete Guide to Pet Care* by David L. Carroll
 - The Simple Guide to Freshwater Aquariums* by David E. Boruchowitz

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.