African Dwarf Frog
_hymenochirus curtipes_

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

**African Dwarf Frog facts:**
- average adult size: 1\(\frac{1}{4}\) inches long
- average life span: up to 5 years with proper care
- diet: omnivore
- minimum aquarium size: 10+ gallons
- water temperature: 72-82°F

**Care Sheet**

**shopping list** for needed supplies
- appropriate size aquarium
- appropriate food, dry and frozen
- décor
- water conditioner
- filter
- water test kit
- full spectrum lighting - T5 recommended
- net
- thermometer
- freshwater substrate
- heater
- hydrometer
- airstone
- air pump
- book about african dwarf frogs

**sources**

Ask an associate about Petco's selection of books on African Dwarf Frogs and the variety of Petco Brand products available for the care and happiness of your new pet. All Petco Brand products carry a 100% money-back guarantee.

Because all aquatic life are potential carriers of infectious diseases, such as Salmonella, always wash your hands before and after handling your aquatic life and/or habitat contents to help prevent the potential spread of diseases.

Pregnant women, children under the age of 5 and people with weakened immune systems should contact their physician before purchasing and/or caring for aquatic life and should consider not having aquatic life as a pet. Go to the Centers for Disease Control at cdc.gov/healthypets/ for more information about aquatic life and disease. Go to petco.com/caresheet to download other helpful Care Sheets.

This care sheet can cover the needs of other species. See petco.com for more information.

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

**Habitatituide.**

Developed with and approved by a qualified veterinarian.
A well-balanced African Dwarf Frog diet consists of:

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

**feeding**

Things to remember when feeding your African Dwarf Frog:

- Feed once a day.
- Thaw frozen food before feeding.

**diet**

African Dwarf Frog *hymenochirus curtipes*

**housing**

- Keep in an appropriate size aquarium; provide plenty of hiding places and a secure lid to prevent jumping.
- **Stable water quality, water temperature, and pH levels are critical to the health of the aquatic life.** If you are unsure of your water quality or pH levels, Petco provides free water testing.

**characteristics**

- Brown, mottled rough looking skin.
- Back feet have three “claws.”
- Spends most of the day on the bottom of the tank, but swims to the surface to breathe air.

**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.

**habitat maintenance**

**Daily:** check filter, water temperature and other equipment.

**Weekly:** check water quality at least once a week.

**Monthly:** change 10-25% of the total volume of water every 2-4 weeks, or as needed. Introduce new inhabitants to the aquarium gradually.

**signs of a healthy African Dwarf Frog**

- Swims actively
- Hides often
- Eats vigorously
- Clear eyes and smooth skin
- Remains in the bottom half of the aquarium

Avoid overcrowded conditions; they are a major cause of stress and disease. Maintain good water quality with regular water changes and adequate filtration.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health Issue</th>
<th>Symptoms or Causes</th>
<th>Suggested Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bacterial infection</td>
<td>Cloudy eyes, open sores, and/or reddening of the skin.</td>
<td>Improve water quality and consult your aquatic veterinarian for treatment; seek veterinary advice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fungal infection</td>
<td>Red inflammation of the skin, or any other abnormal change in skin color.</td>
<td>Quarantine frog immediately; seek veterinary advice.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**common health issues**

- **loss of appetite**
- **hazy or cloudy eyes**
- **does not swim away from capture**
- **floating on the top of the aquarium**

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

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**red flags**

- loss of appetite
- hazy or cloudy eyes
- does not swim away from capture
- floating on the top of the aquarium