



**Fun fact** ↻ There are nearly a dozen guppy species, and this fish thrives in a community.

# Guppies at a Glance

Difficulty of care: **Beginner**

Average lifespan: **2–3 years with proper care**

Average adult size: **Up to 2 inches long**

Diet: **Omnivorous**

Minimum habitat size: **At least 5 gallons for singular guppies, depending on species**

Water temperature: **72–82 F**



## Tank Setup and Maintenance

- One guppy should have at least a 5-gallon tank or larger. You'll need to add two extra gallons of water per additional guppy.
- Try getting the largest tank available so you don't end up overcrowding if you keep multiple fish inside.
- Guppies enjoy community, so having more than one guppy of the same species in a tank is normal. Guppies also get along with swordtails, rainbowfish, and cory catfish.
- Change the water volume by 10–25% every two to four weeks and make sure the new water is the same temperature and salt concentration as the existing tank water.
- When checking the water quality, look at the levels for hardness, pH, carbonate, nitrate, and ammonia.

## Supply Checklist

Get some basic supplies, including:

- An aquarium
- Fish food—dry and frozen
- Freshwater substrate
- Décor and live plants
- Water conditioner
- Filter and water test kit
- Full-spectrum lighting
- Net
- Thermometer and check valve
- Heater
- Airline tubing, airstone, and air pump
- Refractometer
- Freshwater salt
- Aquarium hood/cover



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# Health

Guppies should keep a clear, bright color and maintain regular, active swim patterns. Call your vet if you notice discoloration, a change in eye color, or bulging eyes.

Also, make note of any other problems, like a loss of appetite, bumps or growths, or not regularly swimming with other guppies (if you have others).



## Diet

You can feed guppies pellets, flakes, freeze-dried and frozen foods—just make sure to thaw before feeding. Try to change their food every day, so they get a variety of different nutrients.

Depending on the size and species of your fish, you could feed them one to three times a day. If it takes your guppy more than two minutes to eat, there's a chance you might be feeding them too much food.



## Fun fact

You can also keep guppies with other types of fish, including rainbowfish, swordtails, and tetras.