

Clownfish at a Glance

Difficulty of care: **Moderate**

Average lifespan: **Up to 20+ years with proper care**

Average adult size: **4–4.5” (species dependent)**

Diet: **Flakes, pellets, or thawed frozen food**

Minimum habitat size: **About 15 gallons for smaller species; larger for maroon clowns**

Temperature: **74–80 F**

Fun fact ↗
Clownfish can lay up to 1,500 eggs.



Enclosure Setup & Maintenance

- A single clownfish or a pair works best. Two young clownfish will naturally grow into a bonded pair. Larger species like maroon clowns need more space. Choose the largest tank you can, and keep it out of direct sunlight and drafts.
- Use a filter that circulates the tank's volume at least five times per hour. Add marine salt until specific gravity reaches 1.020–1.025, checking it with a hydrometer or refractometer. Keep water temperature stable between 74–80 F, avoiding swings over 2 F in a day.
- Line the tank with up to an inch of marine substrate. Rinse inert substrates before use; do not rinse bioactive ones. Provide hiding spots such as caves, coral, live rock, or plants.
- Perform weekly or biweekly partial water changes (10–20%). Clean tank walls, décor, and filter components as needed. Always match new water's salt level, pH, and temperature before adding it to the tank.

Supply Checklist

- Aquarium of appropriate size
- Marine substrate and décor
- Marine salt
- Filter, heater, thermometer
- Water conditioner and test kit
- Full-spectrum lighting
- Net and protein skimmer
- Refractometer
- Live rock, coral, or plants
- Appropriate fish food



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Diet

Feed a small amount of food two to three times daily. Offer only what they finish in two minutes, and remove leftovers.

Provide flakes, pellets, or thawed frozen foods for a balanced diet.



Fun fact ↗

All clownfish are born male; the dominant partner becomes female as they mature.

Health

Healthy clownfish have bright colors, smooth movement, intact fins, and a good appetite.

Watch for unusual swimming, lethargy, rapid breathing, gill color changes, appetite loss, or white spots or growths. Seek advice if behavior or appearance changes.

Fun fact ↗

In the wild, clownfish live closely with sea anemones, using them for shelter.

