



Pet Toad at a Glance

Difficulty of care: **Beginner to moderate**

Average lifespan: **10 years or longer with proper care**

Average adult size: **1–6”, depending on species**

Diet: **Live insects and worms**

Minimum habitat size: **10–20 gallons for up to six adult toads**

Temperature: **70–80 F with a temperature gradient**



Fun fact ↪ Some species make calls that sound like sneezes, chirps, or snores.

Enclosure Setup & Maintenance

- Toads should be housed in a secure, well-ventilated enclosure with a screened lid. A 10–20 gallon habitat is suitable for up to six adult toads, though exact space requirements depend on species size.
- Multiple toads of the same species can often live together, but males and females should only be housed together if breeding is desired.
- Provide at least 2 inches of substrate, such as sphagnum moss, coconut fiber, or cypress mulch, and maintain a moisture gradient with one side drier and the other more humid.
- Temperatures should range from approximately 70–80 F, with the warmer side near the heating pad. Humidity should remain between 50–60% on the drier side and around 70% on the humid side. Provide UVB lighting for 10–12 hours daily, along with at least two hiding areas, plants, branches, and other decor for security and enrichment. Spot-clean daily and perform a complete habitat cleaning and disinfection at least once each month.



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Supply Checklist

- Appropriately sized habitat
- Substrate and sphagnum moss
- Water and mealworm dishes
- Climbing décor, plants, and hideaways
- Heat light and fixture
- Under-tank heater, thermostats, and thermometers
- Calcium supplement with vitamin D
- Cricket keeper, food, and quencher
- UVB lighting and fixture
- Multivitamin supplement
- Live insects
- Humidity gauge
- Water mister

Fun fact ↪ Toads are amphibians, not reptiles.

Health

Toads should receive a veterinary examination every year. Healthy toads have clean eyes, nostrils, and oral cavities, straight and smooth toes, and a healthy appetite. Shedding is a normal process, and many toads will consume their shed skin.

Contact a veterinarian if you notice eye or nasal discharge, skin lesions, loss of appetite, or other unusual changes in appearance or behavior. Because toads have sensitive skin and can carry diseases such as Salmonella, handling should be limited and hands should be washed thoroughly before and after any contact.

Fun fact ↪ Pet toads often live longer than wild toads.

Diet

Juvenile toads should be fed daily with very small live insects, such as pinhead crickets or wingless fruit flies. Adult toads can eat three to six insects every other day. Adult diets may include a variety of gut-loaded insects and worms, including crickets, earthworms, and roaches. Prey items should be no larger than the width of the toad's mouth.

Calcium with vitamin D should be added to insects at every feeding, while multivitamins should be provided once weekly for adults and twice weekly for juveniles.

Fresh, dechlorinated water should always be available in a shallow dish large enough for soaking.

Fun fact ↪

Younger toads shed more frequently than adults, and many eat their shed skin.

