

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 goldfish or koi

sources

Speak to an associate about the PETCO library of books on goldfish or koi.
Speak to a PETCO associate about our many private brand items available for the care and happiness of your pet.

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 an aquatic life and should consider not having an aquatic life as a pet. For more information regarding aquatic life and disease, contact the Center for Disease Control at <http://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/> and http://www.petco.com/pet_care_info/companion_animal_care_sheets.

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

goldfish and koi

includes goldfish and koi species



care sheet

these were the first fish species successfully bred in captivity on a large scale. goldfish and koi can grow quite large and their beauty is impressive. despite popular believe, goldfish do not “grow to the size of their tank.”

goldfish and koi facts:

Average adult size:	5 inches to 3 feet long, depending on species
Average life span:	Up to 60+ years with proper care
Diet:	omnivore
Minimum Aquarium Size:	20+ gallons, depending on species
Water Temperature:	64-75°F



HabitatMentor

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

diet

- a well-balanced goldfish or koi diet consists of:
- flake, pellet, frozen or freeze dried foods.
 - goldfish and koi need more carbohydrates than other freshwater fish; feed them foods specifically formulated for goldfish and koi.

feeding

- things to remember when feeding your goldfish or koi:
- feed small amounts once a day, only as much as they can consume in 3-5 minutes.
 - thaw frozen foods before feeding.

housing

- keep in an appropriate size aquarium or pond; goldfish or koi are not recommended for tropical aquariums.
- **Stable water quality, water temperature, and pH levels are critical to the health of the invertebrate. If you are unsure of your water quality or pH levels, PETCO provides free water testing.**

characteristics

create more waste than other fish of comparable size, and require better filtration. can get their oxygen from the water's surface. color patterns on multi-colored goldfish or koi may change throughout lifetime; will often lose black markings as they grow.

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.

compatibility

compatible with cold water community fish that can tolerate lower temperatures. can be kept singly or in schools if tank or pond is large enough.

signs of a healthy fish

- clear eyes
- healthy appetite
- active swimming
- regular breathing

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

red flags

- loss of appetite
- spots or fungus on body or mouth
- labored breathing

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

common health issues

Health Issue	Symptoms or Causes	Suggested Action
fungus	white cotton-like patches appear on the fish's body or fins.	improve water quality; a consult your aquatic veterinarian for treatment.
ich	white spots appear on fins and body; fish rubs against hard objects or swims awkwardly.	quarantine fish immediately; use commercial ich remedy for at least two weeks.