

Arowana

Includes Silver, Black and Australian Pearl



CARE SHEET

Developed with and approved by a Qualified Veterinarian

Arowana, also called Dragon Fish, Baramundi, Saratoga, Kelesa, and Aruana, Whether it's from Asia, So. America, Australia, or Africa, the Arowana is a long, sleek, streamlined fish of great beauty with a unique character. Many Asian Arowanas are endangered and protected species and are not permissible in the US. Arowana are large and often aggressive with the potential for rapid growth. Many believe that Arowanas bring good luck and fortune



Is an Arowana the right choice for your aquarium?

Yes	No	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. I have room for an appropriate size aquarium.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. This Arowana would be compatible with my other aquarium inhabitants.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. I can commit to providing proper care for this Arowana.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. A mature person will provide responsible and primary care for this fish.

If you answered "Yes" to these statements, an Arowana may be the right choice for you! Continue reading about how to care for an Arowana and consult with a PETCO associate to learn more. PETCO is committed to responsible aquarium care.

Average Size Up to 24 inches long, in captivity

Life Span Up to 10 years with proper care

Diet Arowana is carnivorous. In the wild its food consists mainly of insects, fishes and worms. Provide live or frozen fish and insects, krill, worms and shrimp (for young Arowana avoid insects or inverts with sharp or very hard shells). Thaw frozen foods before feeding. Provide pellets designed for surface feeding carnivorous fish (or Arowana pellet food).

Feeding These fish are surface feeders often gliding just below the water surface. Feed young fish 2-3 times a day and adults once a day, feed only what they can eat within 3-5 minutes. Feed carefully as Arowanas usually attack their food coiling their bodies like a spring and lunging forward to engulf the food.

Housing The Arowana is a surface swimming fish, width (front to back) of the tank is more important than its height (top to bottom). A general rule is the width of the tank should be at least the length of the fish. For an Arowana baby a 20 gallon long is adequate for the first two or three months. (Beware that if a fish is left in too small of tank a permanent spinal curvature can occur.) As the fish grows a 55 gallon, then a 125 gallon, and finally a 180 gallon plus for a full-grown fish is recommended. Always keep tank covered as this fish is an active jumper. Provide proper filtration to maintain health, and perform 25-50% water changes weekly. Arowana are more sensitive to nitrites than other fish. Water temperature should range from 72° F. to 82° F.

Stable water quality, water temperature and pH levels are critical to the health of fish. If you are unsure of your water quality or pH levels, PETCO provides free water testing.

Recommended Supplies	<input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate size aquarium	<input type="checkbox"/> Pelleted or live foods	<input type="checkbox"/> Filter
	<input type="checkbox"/> Water conditioner	<input type="checkbox"/> Aquarium cover	<input type="checkbox"/> Light
	<input type="checkbox"/> Water test kit	<input type="checkbox"/> Substrate	<input type="checkbox"/> Net
	<input type="checkbox"/> Thermometer	<input type="checkbox"/> Décor	<input type="checkbox"/> Airstone
	<input type="checkbox"/> Heater	<input type="checkbox"/> Book about Arowanas	<input type="checkbox"/> Air pump

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- Characteristics** Arowana have Mandibular Barbels or Whiskers that are used to sense movement on the water surface.
- Decorate with minimum plants and décor to allow maximum swimming area and yet provide a hiding place. Avoid sharp objects upon which an Arowana could injure itself.
- Habitat Maintenance** Check filter, other equipment and water temperature daily
- Check water quality at least once a week
- Change 25–50% of the total volume of water every week, or as needed
- Compatibility** Adult Arowanas are best kept alone, because of their size and requirements. If housed with other tank mates they must be large enough not to be swallowed whole by the Arowana and must not occupy the upper section of the tank. Most all bottom dwellers are tolerated. Other aggressive fish may ruin the long flowing fins of a beautiful Arowana.
- Signs of a Healthy Fish**
- Eats vigorously
 - Clear eyes
 - Swimming at the top of the aquarium
 - Color should be bright and shiny

Common Health Issues

Health Issue (alpha)	Symptoms or Causes	Suggested Action
Fin Rot	Frayed or disintegrating fins; the base of the fins usually reddens	Improve water quality; Commercial antibiotics may be effective
Ich	White spots appear on fins and body; fish rubs against hard objects or swims awkwardly	Quarantine fish immediately; use a commercial Ich remedy for at least two weeks

- Signs of Illness**
- Loss of appetite
 - Listlessness or bottom dwelling
 - Elevated scales
 - Spots or fungus on body or mouth
 - Cloudy eye(s) or drop eye
 - Frayed or discolored fins

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

Preventing Common Health Issues

- Avoid crowded conditions; they are a major cause of stress and disease
- Avoid over feeding as this rapidly degrades water quality
- Maintain good water quality with regular water changes and adequate filtration

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