

HOW TO



keep **FROGS & TOADS**

Tail-less amphibians have gained a great deal of popularity amongst fish keepers. Only a few varieties are readily available in the pet trade. Depending on the species, these animals may be fully aquatic, fully terrestrial or a combination of the two. Some will only survive in heated water and others prefer a cooler environment. Diets mainly consist of live food, such as bloodworm. They will also accept most frozen foods. Feed 3-4 times a week and remove any uneaten food as this will quickly pollute the water. It is advisable to feed from a small bowl (toads only) to help keep tank water clean. Frogs and toads have permeable skin that rapidly absorbs any impurities with which they come into contact. Aquarium cleanliness is important - always wash your hands before/after handling or use a net as the secretions from our skin are harmful to them.



ORIENTAL FIRE BELLIED TOADS:-

This is only one of the fire bellied toads available. They originate from Asia, but are captive bred for the pet trade. Fully grown, these toads can reach 2 inches in length and have a life span of up to 14 years. They are very attractive with a bright green and black body and a vivid red underside. These are cold water toads and should be kept in an unheated tank, indoors, with a secure lid.

They are semi-aquatic so require an area of water to swim in and an area to allow complete emergence from the water. This can be achieved by using rocks, plants and ornaments to build out of the water.



Alternatively, there are specially made habitats available which provide for all their needs. Fire bellied toads are communal and can live either on their own, in two's or more (of the same species). Do not house with fish. The water requires filtration and frequent partial changes. Use a kit to test water quality and waste levels. Remember, any tap water used should be treated first to remove chlorine.

AQUATIC FROGS:-

Dwarf, underwater frogs originate from Tropical Africa, but only captive bred ones are available in the pet trade. They reach a size of 1-2" and can live up to 5 years. They are usually brown/grey or albino in colour. These frogs are fully aquatic and do not need to come out of the water. They are communal and can live with some species of fish. Aggressive or large fish may see these frogs as an easy meal and very small fish, such as neon tetra's may become lunch for the frogs. Molly's, Platy's and similar sized fish are ideal tankmates.

Caves and hiding places should be provided and these can be created



by using rocks and ornaments.

Aquatic frogs are from warmer climates and if kept as a pet, their water must be maintained at 26 degrees C. A tropical fish tank heater is perfect for this. Their water also requires filtration and treating with a de-chlorinator.