

Basic Goldfish Care

(by AquariumKids.com)

Step 1: Setting up your Goldfish's tank

After finding a suitable tank¹ for your Goldfish, wash it out with warm water (no soap) and fill it with dechlorinated² tap water. Install any equipment³ now.

Step 2: Acclimating your Goldfish

To acclimate your Goldfish, place it in a paper cup floating in the tank, filled with water from its bag. At regular intervals, remove and dispose of a portion of the cup's water, replacing it with water from the tank. After 30 minutes, let your Goldfish swim into the tank.

Step 3: Feeding your Goldfish

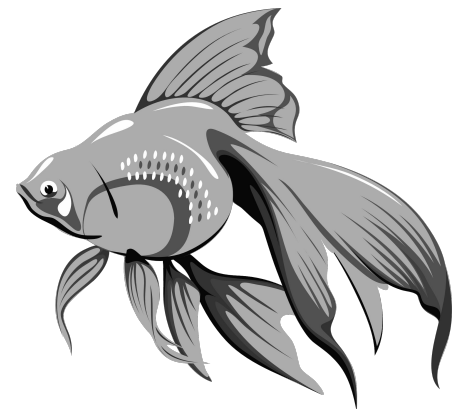
Overfeeding can cause disease and harm water quality. Some people will recommend that you feed only as much as your fish can consume in a minute. This measure is a good rule of thumb, but not a definitive solution for all fish. Feed your fish once a day (it's okay if you occasionally miss a day) with just a small pinch of food.

Step 4: Regular tank maintenance

To perform a water change, remove approximately half of your aquarium's water (not all of it) with a siphon or paper cup. Carefully replace this water with dechlorinated water within 2°F of your tank water. Water changes should be done at least semi-weekly during the cycling process (AquariumKids.com/nitrogen-cycle) and either weekly or every two weeks otherwise.

Shopping list:

- ¹Fish Tank (*bigger is better—bowls are abuse*)
- ²Dechlorinator (*used to make tap water safe for your fish*)
- Fish food (*look for food with high plant content*)
- ³Filter (*used to keep your fish's water clean*)
- Decorations (*optional*)
- Water test kit (*used to see how clean your fish's water is*)



Further reading: AquariumKids.com/goldfish-care-sheet

Other care sheets: AquariumKids.com/care-sheets