

Axolotl Care Sheet



PROFILE

Common Name: **Axolotl**

Latin Name: **Ambystoma maxicanum**

Native To: **Mexico**

Size: **10"**

Life Span: **10 – 15 years**

HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

Environment:

The remnants of lakes Xochimilco and Chalco in Mexico City. Axolotls are completely aquatic salamanders that never emerge onto land.

Vivarium Size:

A minimum 24x12x12" aquarium $\frac{3}{4}$ full of water will suffice for a single axolotl. Bigger is better with this curious amphibian so the larger the enclosure the happier the axolotl will be. You will need a good quality filter with low flow as axolotls are not strong swimmers.

Substrate:

We recommend fine sand for axolotls as when they feed, any sand that is sucked up with the food can be ejected via the gills. Avoid pebbles or grit as these can cause blockages and other complications.

Food and Water:

Good staple foods for axolotls include live reptile food such as earthworms and bloodworms. They will also take specially made axolotl pellets, strips of fish, defrosted prawns and live feeder shrimp. Avoid feeding live fish because of the risk of parasite and disease transmission.

Heat/Light Requirements:

Axolotls require no additional heating or lighting. The ideal range of water temperature is 15 - 21°C. This relatively low temperature must be considered if you wish to purchase a light for your animal. We would recommend a low LED light as they give off very little heat and as axolotls are near sighted, they don't enjoy bright lights.

Please note that this care sheet is only for your basic husbandry knowledge and that it is always recommended that you do further reading.

FURTHER READING:

<http://www.reptilesmagazine.com/>

Any Problems?

Give us a ring ASAP on 0121 744 1300

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