



## FACT SHEET - GOLDFISH

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Easy to look after. Can be kept indoors in an aquarium or outdoors in a pond. Outdoor ponds must be deep enough so that the fish do not get caught in the ice during the winter. Aquarium water requires regular changing and the gravel washed.

### Goldfish Need

- A large aquarium kept away from direct sunlight or pond, not too shallow
- Plants suitable for coldwater aquarium or pond plants
- Rocks for aquariums for fish to hide behind
- Food especially for goldfish with occasional live food such as water fleas or blood worms and bits of vegetable
- The companionship of other goldfish



### Goldfish Health

- Fungus disease which shows as white 'tufts' on the body. Can be treated by the addition of an anti-fungus medication to the water
- White spot is caused by a parasite which produces white spots on the body. Treatment can be bought from pet shops
- Constipation is seen by a trailing brown thread from the body. Reconsider the diet and add bits of vegetable and live food
- Oxygen starvation is when there is not enough dissolved oxygen in the water. Change the water clean out the aquarium, add more plants and introduce an air pump

### Goldfish Facts

- Average lifespan is about 25 years
- The breeding season begins in April and May and continues throughout the summer
- Eggs are laid in the water and immediately fertilised by the male
- The eggs hatch in 4 - 14 days, depending on the temperature

This is intended as a quick guide only. Further information should be obtained before embarking on keeping this type of pet.