

## Pufferfish (Brackish)

*Chelonodon spp*



### Natural Range

These Pufferfish are mainly found in the top-end of Australia from Western Australia to Queensland. They inhabit a range of environments, from full marine to brackish Estuaries, and have been known to sometimes venture into freshwater streams.

### Maximum Size and Longevity

They can live for up to 8 years and grow to a size of approximately 30cm.

### Water Quality

Pufferfish can tolerate a large range of water conditions from full marine water to brackish.

- Temperature 24—26°C
- pH 7.5—8.0
- General hardness 250—300ppm
- Salinity 8—15 ppt

### Feeding

Pufferfish are voracious feeders and prefer big chunky foods like beefheart or mussels, and whole small prawns. They can be weaned onto other foods such as pellets and frozen brine.

### Compatibility

These are compatible with other puffers of the same species but are known to nip at their fins. Puffers will do this with other fish as well. Some compatible fish are Scats, Monos, and Salmon Catfish.

### Colour and Variety

There are almost 120 different types of puffers in fresh and marine waters. These particular puffers have a white or silver belly and their backs are covered with brown to green skin with milky white spots. They also have a yellow flash underneath their pectoral fin. This puffer does not have large spikes or spines, but has tiny little spines covering their skin.

### Sexing

Not a lot is known about the difference between male and female Pufferfish apart from the female getting a little bit larger or plumper during breeding season. They are an egg laying fish that will scatter their eggs on rocks and plants.

### General Information

If your puffer goes missing and you can't find it, check under the gravel. These puffers are known to hide underneath sand and gravel for no apparent reason.

Important note: Pufferfish can release toxins into the water when they die, therefore dead fish should be removed from the tank as soon as possible.

Native