

How to Look After Your Axolotl:

1. **Feeding:** For a growing axolotl, feed it as much as it will eat - this will probably be between 1-2 slithers of meat, or worms, a day. Axolotls in the wild hunt by sitting still and waiting for food to come very close to their noses, so the best way to feed them is to dangle food in front of their noses. You can do this by hand, or skewer the meat on a knitting needle. As they grow older, they will still eat the same amount, but may go off their food for a few days. This is fine, and normal. Being cold-blooded, axolotls are ok if they go for a few days without food.



2. **Age your water:** When you clean your bowl and replace the water, the water you put back into your bowl must be “aged”. This means that the chlorine our water is treated with has time to dissipate. To do this, simply fill a bucket with tapwater at least two days before. After it has stood for this length of time it is safe to put your axolotl into it.
3. **Balance the pH:** Once a week, remove about an 8th of the water from your axolotl’s bowl and replace it with fresh tapwater. This tapwater does not need to be aged.
4. **Do not put your axolotl’s bowl in direct sunlight:** Not only will your axolotl not like this, it will make algae grow and you will have to clean your tank more often.
5. **Cover your axolotl’s bowl if you spray for flies:** flyspray is toxic to axolotls.
6. **Bowl cleaning:** How often you need to clean your bowl and change the water varies

depending on how big your axolotl is, and whether or not it’s being fed correctly. As a general rule, every couple of months is fine.

7. **Leave your axolotl in its tank:** Just because your axolotl has legs, doesn’t mean it is equipped to survive on land. Axolotls can survive out of water for about as long as a fish can.

Extra Information:

1. Do not leave uneaten food in your axolotl’s water. It will rot, and make the water unhealthy.
2. Our water is treated with chlorine, which is toxic to axolotls. But when the water has been left to stand for a couple of days “aged”, the chlorine diffuses into the air, making the water safe. If you put your finger over the tap and “spray” it, as you would if you were squirting water from a hose, this also helps to remove some of the chlorine. Water aging products can be purchased, which enable you to put your axolotl into water almost immediately.
3. All water has a pH value; this is a measure of how alkaline or acidic it is. Axolotls cannot survive in water that is either too acid or too alkaline. Water that stands in a bowl gradually becomes more and more acidic. Tapwater usually is at the perfect

pH for axolotls, so regularly taking some water out of the bowl, and replacing it with a small amount of tapwater will keep your axolotl's water at the right acidity level.

4. Axolotls and goldfish should not share a tank. Goldfish nibble the axolotls' gills.
5. Axolotls like still water. Do not aerate their tank.
6. Do not put small gravel in your axolotl's tank, as they will eat it. Anything bigger than a marble is ideal.

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If you have any further questions about the care of your axolotl, please don't hesitate to call us.