

Arowana are among the most prestigious freshwater aquarium fish in the world. Before purchasing online, understand legal status, tank size, cost, and long term care requirements.

## What Is an Arowana Fish?

Arowana are large, surface dwelling freshwater fish known for metallic scales, elongated bodies, and powerful jumping ability, often called Dragon Fish.

Arowana belong to the family Osteoglossidae and are native to tropical regions of South America, Asia, and Australia. Their upturned mouths and barbels help them hunt insects and small prey near the water surface.

## Where Do Arowana Fish Live in the Wild?

Arowana inhabit warm, slow moving rivers, swamps, and floodplains across South America, Southeast Asia, and northern Australia.

Species such as the Silver Arowana from the Amazon basin and Asian varieties from Southeast Asia evolved in soft, slightly acidic water with seasonal flooding cycles.

## What Are the Different Types of Arowana Fish?

The main Arowana types are Silver, Asian, Australian, and Black, each differing in origin, coloration, size, rarity, and price.

### 1. Silver Arowana

Native to South America, these are the most commonly available and affordable species.

### 2. Asian Arowana

Often called the Super Red or Golden Arowana, these are highly valued and regulated internationally.

### 3. Australian Arowana

Known for pearl like spotting and strong body structure, native to northern Australia.

### 4. Black Arowana

Juveniles display striking dark coloration and originate from the Amazon region.

## How Much Does an Arowana Fish Cost?

Arowana prices range from a few hundred dollars for Silver varieties to several thousand dollars for rare Asian strains.

Pricing depends on species, size, coloration, lineage certification, and legal documentation. Asian Arowana are typically the most expensive due to restricted trade status and breeding controls.

Ongoing ownership costs include:

Large aquarium setup

High capacity filtration

Premium protein based diet

Electricity and water maintenance

## Is It Legal to Buy Asian Arowana Online?

Asian Arowana are protected under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species CITES, and require proper certification for legal trade.

Some countries restrict or prohibit importation. Always verify local regulations and ensure the seller provides valid documentation before purchasing.

Silver and Australian Arowana are generally less restricted, though local laws still apply.

### What Tank Size Does an Arowana Need?

Arowana require a minimum 120 gallon aquarium, though 180 gallons or larger is recommended for adult specimens.

These fish can grow over 90 cm depending on species. Tanks must include:

Tight fitting lid to prevent jumping

Strong biological filtration

Open swimming space

Minimal sharp decor

Underestimating tank size is one of the most common beginner mistakes.

### What Water Conditions Do Arowana Require?

Arowana thrive in warm water between 24 and 28°C with a pH range of 6.0 to 7.5 and strong filtration.

Stable parameters are more important than chasing exact numbers. Weekly partial water changes help prevent ammonia buildup and stress related illness.

### What Do Arowana Fish Eat?

Arowana are carnivorous predators that require a high protein diet of insects, shrimp, fish, and quality formulated pellets.

Feeding tips:

Feed juveniles more frequently than adults

Avoid overfeeding, obesity is common

Supplement with frozen or fresh foods

Do not rely solely on live feeder fish due to parasite risk

### Are Arowana Fish Aggressive?

Arowana are territorial and predatory, but not typically aggressive toward similarly sized tank mates.

Compatible companions may include:

Large catfish



Pacu

Other large peaceful freshwater fish

Small fish will likely be eaten. Many keepers prefer housing Arowana alone.

### How Do Arowana Fish Breed?

Arowana are mouthbrooders, meaning the male carries fertilized eggs in his mouth until the fry hatch.

Breeding typically requires:

Large dedicated tank or pond

Mature breeding pair

Excellent water quality

Low stress environment

Captive breeding of Asian Arowana is tightly controlled in many regions.

### What Health Problems Do Arowana Fish Get?

Common Arowana health issues include dropsy, ich, fin rot, and swim bladder problems, often linked to poor water quality.

Warning signs:

Lethargy

Loss of appetite

Clamped fins

White spots

Swelling

Preventative care through filtration, stable temperature, and proper diet is more effective than reactive treatment.

### How Long Do Arowana Fish Live?

Arowana typically live 10 to 15 years in captivity, and may live longer with excellent care and spacious housing.

Longevity depends on:

Tank size

Water stability

Diet quality

Stress levels

They are a long [Arowana fish online](#) term commitment rather than a short term aquarium addition.

### How Can You Buy Arowana Fish Online Safely?

Buy Arowana online only from reputable breeders who provide health guarantees, clear photos, legal documentation, and secure live shipping practices.

Before purchasing:

Confirm species identification

Verify legality in your country

Request certification for protected species

Review seller reputation

Ensure proper acclimation upon arrival

Never purchase undocumented protected species.

Are Arowana Fish Endangered?

Some species, particularly Asian Arowana, face conservation pressure due to habitat loss and overcollection, leading to international trade regulation.

Supporting responsible breeders and verified captive bred sources reduces pressure on wild populations.

Final Thoughts

Arowana fish are striking, intelligent, and commanding aquarium predators that require space, stability, and responsible ownership.

Before buying online, confirm legal requirements, prepare an adequately sized tank, and understand the long term financial and care commitment.

With proper preparation, an Arowana can become the centerpiece of a large freshwater aquarium for over a decade.