

# Puffer PADS

Use these vitals to create the perfect domicile for two pufferfish species.

To put together the perfect pad for your brackish or saltwater puffer, simply follow the tips in this handy FishChannel guide, to help complement what you already know and are learning about puffers.



## Figure-8 (Brackish)

### Décor

- Inquisitive fish in need of stimulation to include complex decorations, plants, caves, rockwork and PVC.
- Brackish plants like Java fern and moss

### Food and Nutrition

- Mussels, cockles, krill, prawns, king prawns, crabs and crab legs, bloodworms, blackworms, silversides, crayfish, shrimp, earthworms.
- Fish vitamins or vitamin water to soak food in.

### Tank

- Puffers like large, long tanks for more swimming room.
- Crushed coral or aragonite sand substrate
- Tank should be fully Cycled (fishless method) before adding puffers.
- 15-gallon minimum for one 3-inch adult; use larger setups for bigger individuals and multiple puffers (10 gallons per additional adult specimen).
- Tight-fitting top

### Tankmates

- Like to nip fins and more. Best kept singly or with other puffers. Add 10 gallons per puffer and break up line of sight with tank décor.

### Water

- Warm (78 degrees Fahrenheit)
- PH 8
- No ammonia, nitrites, low nitrates (under 20 ppm)
- SG 1.005 to 1.008
- Low-end brackish or very hard fresh water
- Add some marine salt
- 50 percent weekly water changes
- If coming from freshwater setup, drip-acclimate them to a brackish setup.

## Fugu (Saltwater)

### Décor

- Light
- Prefer open swimming areas and like to bury themselves.

### Foods and Nutrition

- Meaty foods, such as clams, mussels, shrimp, scallops, etc.
- Add fish vitamins to their diet to avoid nutritional deficiencies.

### Tank

- 55-gallon is minimum size for 6-inch adult specimen; use larger setups for bigger specimens and multiple puffers
- Fine sand
- Secure, tight-fitting top
- Place in lightly traveled, less-busy, less-noisy areas.
- Subtle lighting set on a timer (15-watt light bulb on for six hours a day)

### Tankmates

- Keep singly or with other puffers in very large tanks

### Water

- Weekly water changes
- Fully cycled tank prior to introducing puffers to system.
- SG 1.019 to 1.022
- 64.5 to 68 degrees for these temperate species; chillers are a consideration.

\*Tip sheets are not meant to take the place of good independent research about a particular species conducted prior to purchasing, keeping, housing and maintaining it.