



Oriental Fire bellied Toad *Bombina orientalis*

- The Oriental fire bellied toad is a small, semi aquatic amphibian with a green, warty skin with dark mottling, and a distinct bright red to reddish orange underside.
- Native to eastern Asia, including southern Russia, Japan, Korea, and China.
- If provided the proper care, Oriental fire bellied toads can attain longevity of 10-20 years or more.
- These toads can arch their heads and bodies upwards to display their brightly colored underside to potential predators, which is known as the unken reflex.
- Fire bellied toads are a very inexpensive and hardy amphibian to maintain for the beginning enthusiast or pet owner.

Size

Adult Oriental fire bellied toads reach 1 ½ to 2 inches.

Housing

Housing must be sealed and escape proof with a secured top or aquarium hood. A 10 gallon aquarium, terrarium, or other enclosure is suitable for a pair of these toads. They can also be kept communally in proportionally larger housing. A portion of the enclosure should consist of water at around 4-6 inches in depth on a gravel substrate. An appropriate filter can be used to help maintain water clarity and cleanliness. Also provide naturalistic basking areas, or other access to dry land in the form of artificial logs, cork bark or slabs, natural or artificial foliage, or rocks. Enclosures should be spot cleaned, sterilized, and cleaned regularly.

Maintain adequate temperatures of 75-78 degrees F using room temperature, under tank heating mat, or aquarium heating elements. Overhead heating, UV lighting, and basking lamps are not necessary or recommended for maintaining these amphibians, as these can overheat these sensitive amphibians.

Feeding/Diet

Oriental fire bellied toads are primarily insectivorous both in the wild and in captivity. Food items that are readily accepted by these amphibians can include earthworms, waxworms, small feeder crickets and roaches, silkworms, or other feeder insects. Recommended feeding is 2-3 times weekly. Feeder insects should also be gut loaded and/or dusted with additional vitamin D3 supplements as well prior to feeding to ensure optimal nutrition and health.

Handling

Oriental fire bellied toads are delicate and sensitive amphibians, and handling should be avoided or kept to a minimum whenever possible. These toads also possess toxic or irritating skin secretions as well.

Also be sure to practice basic cleanliness and hygiene associated with proper husbandry after touching or handling any animals or animal enclosures to prevent the possibility of contracting salmonellosis or any other zoonotic pathogens