shopping list for needed supplies

- ☐ appropriate size aquarium
- ☐ appropriate food, dry and frozen
- ☐ décor
- ☐ water conditioner
- ☐ aquarium salt
- ☐ filter
- ☐ water test kit
- ☐ full spectrum lighting - T5 recommended
- ☐ net
- ☐ thermometer
- ☐ protein skimmer
- ☐ marine substrate
- ☐ heater
- ☐ hydrometer
- ☐ airstone
- ☐ air pump
- ☐ book about marine eels

sources

Ask an associate about Petco's selection of books on Marine Eels and the variety of Petco Brand products available for the care and happiness of your new pet. All Petco Brand products carry a 100% money-back guarantee.

Because all aquatic life are potential carriers of infectious diseases, such as Salmonella, always wash your hands before and after handling your aquatic life and/or habitat contents to help prevent the potential spread of diseases.

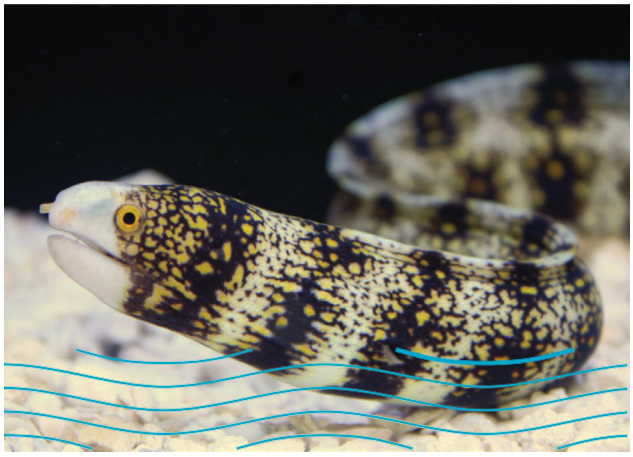
Pregnant women, children under the age of 5 and people with weakened immune systems should contact their physician before purchasing and/or caring for aquatic life and should consider not having aquatic life as a pet. Go to the Centers for Disease Control at cdc.gov/healthypets/ for more information about aquatic life and disease. Go to petco.com/caresheet to download other helpful Care Sheets.

This care sheet can cover the needs of other species. See petco.com for more information.

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Marine Eel

includes snowflake and other marine eel species



Care Sheet

Marine Eels have an excellent sense of smell but can't see very well. Eels have an elongated, snake-like body and vary in size and coloration. They open their jaws to allow water over their gills for breathing. A popular Marine Eel is the snowflake Moray Eel. Recommended for experienced aquarists.

Marine Eel facts:

average adult size:	1 to 6+ feet long, depending on species
average life span:	depends on species
diet:	carnivore
minimum aquarium size:	50+ gallons, depending on species
water temperature:	72-82°F
salinity level:	1.020-1.026

Habitattitude™

Note: *The information on this Care Sheet is not a substitute for veterinary care. If you need additional information, please refer to the sources on the following page or contact your veterinarian as appropriate.*

petco® where the healthy pets go

Developed with and approved by a qualified veterinarian.

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diet

A well-balanced Marine Eels diet consists of:

- Eels are carnivorous and feed on fish or invertebrates.
- Squid can be given occasionally as a special meal.

feeding

Things to remember when feeding your Marine Eel:

- Feed once or twice weekly, depending on size, usually in the evening.
- Use caution when feeding; lower food with feeding tongs.

housing

- Keep in an appropriate size aquarium; a well-sealed aquarium lid is mandatory because Eels can easily escape. Provide hiding places large enough for an Eel to fit inside.
- **Stable water quality, water temperature, and pH levels are critical to the health of the aquatic life. If you are unsure of your water quality or pH levels, Petco provides free water testing.**

characteristics

- Usually Marine Eels are communal and sedentary.
- They tend to be nocturnal and live in holes and caves.
- Marine Eels have a reputation as vicious hunters, but are usually harmless to humans if handled properly.

habitat maintenance

Daily: check filter, water temperature and other equipment.
Weekly: check water quality at least once a week; check salinity levels at least twice a week.
Monthly: change 10-25% of the total volume of water every 2-4 weeks, or as needed.
Introduce new inhabitants to the aquarium gradually.

compatibility

Compatible with certain species of puffers, triggers and angelfish. Don't house with small, slow-swimming species. May become aggressive in an overcrowded aquarium.

signs of a healthy Eel

- Clear eyes
- Healthy appetite
- Fins completely intact and undamaged

Avoid overcrowded conditions; they are a major cause of stress and disease. Maintain good water quality with regular water changes and adequate filtration.

red flags

- loss of color or appetite
- spots or fungus on body or mouth

If you notice any of these signs, test water quality and improve as necessary.

common health issues

Health Issue	Symptoms or Causes	Suggested Action
Fin rot	Frayed or disintegrating fins; the base of the fins usually reddens.	Improve water quality; consult your aquatic veterinarian for treatment.
Marine ich	Cysts on fins, gills, and skin; labored breathing, excess skin mucus or pale skin.	Treat entire aquarium with a commercial parasite remedy and improve water quality; freshwater dips can dislodge the parasites.