

GREEN-AND-BLACK POISON DART FROG

updated 03/17



Range	Central and South America, from Nicaragua and Costa Rica to southeastern Brazil and Bolivia; also thrive in Hawaii, where they were introduced by humans
Habitat	Found on the rain forest floor; prefer living near small streams or pools where tadpoles can grow
Diet (wild)	A variety of arthropods, including ants, beetles, flies, mites, spiders, termites, maggots and caterpillars
Diet (captivity)	Flightless fruit flies and 10-day old crickets
Description	Length: $\frac{3}{4}$ –1 inches. Females are larger than males. This frog has varying green coloration. Surrounding the green colors are splotches of black. They are one of the most variable of all poison dart frogs in appearance. Their vibrant colors warn predators of their toxicity. Males are distinguished from females by a barely visible vocal sac under the skin of the throat. This frog has sucker-like discs on the ends of toes to help with climbing. They have poison glands all over the skin.
Lifespan	Wild: 3–6 years. Captivity: 10–15 years
Reproduction	Once the male has caught the attention of the female, he will lead her to a site for egg deposition. The female lays the eggs and then the male will fertilize. After 14 days, the eggs will hatch into tadpoles. The parents (typically the male) will then carry the tadpoles to small bodies of water, with the tadpoles sticking to the mucus on their parent's backs. Once in water, it will take another six weeks for the tadpoles to reach adulthood. They gather in large groups before mating. Males will establish a small patch for themselves by defending their territories. The females will wander among males as the males call to them.
Behavior	Green-and-black poison dart frogs is semi-arboreal and hunt, court, and sleep in trees. Because they are small frogs, they can't jump far enough to span the distances between trees, so they return to the ground to travel. Green-and-black poison dart frogs are diurnal and have excellent eye sight, hearing, and sense of smell. They capture their prey with long sticky tongues. Females are mostly silent while males defend territories and attract mates by trilling or calling.
Our animals	3 undetermined sex
Cool stuff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While not the most toxic poison dart frog, green-and-black poison frogs are still highly poisonous. The very small amount of poison the frog possesses is enough to make a human heart stop beating. Like most poison dart frogs, however, green-and-black poison dart frogs will only release poison if they feel threatened, and wild specimens can be handled if the human holding it is calm and relaxed. In captivity, the frogs lose their toxicity in due to a change in diet.

Phylum
ChordataClass
AmphibiaOrder
AnuraFamily
DendrobatidaeGenus
Dendrobatesspecies
D. auratus