



STAFF PICK

Adolfo's Cory

Corydoras adolfoi (*Hoplisoma adolfoi*)

Stunning blackwater catfish from the Upper Rio Negro with a vivid orange shoulder patch and sharp black mask. Peaceful, social, and ideal for soft-water community aquariums.

CARE LEVEL	MIN TANK	TEMPERATURE	PH	GROUP
Easy-Moderate	20 gallons (~75 L)	72-79 °F (22-26 °C)	6.0-7.0	6+ recommended

OVERVIEW

Adolfo's Cory (*Corydoras adolfoi*, recently reclassified as *Hoplisoma adolfoi*) is a strikingly handsome blackwater catfish endemic to the Upper Rio Negro in Brazil. With its bright orange shoulder patch, sharp black eye-mask, and silvery body, it ranks among the most beautiful small *Corydoras* species — a social, peaceful bottom-dweller that brings personality to the lower levels of a community tank.

NATURAL HABITAT

Endemic to soft, acidic blackwater tributaries of the Upper Rio Negro in Amazonas, Brazil, deeply stained with tannins from leaf litter and submerged wood. Substrates are fine white sand among leaves, branches, and roots, in shallow margins beneath dense canopy.



VIEW ONLINE

Scan for the full Adolfo's Cory listing

Live price, current stock, and our Live Arrival Guarantee:

jojoaquatics.com/products/adolfos-cory

TANK SETUP

A 20-gallon (~75 L) aquarium is the recommended minimum for a group. Use fine sand — coarse gravel damages their delicate barbels. Provide shaded driftwood, roots, smooth stones, and dried leaves, with hardy low-light plants such as Anubias and Cryptocoryne. Good oxygenation is essential.

DIET

A foraging omnivore. Offer quality sinking pellets or wafers, supplemented with frozen or live bloodworm, tubifex, and daphnia. Despite the myth, cories are not 'cleaners' — they need their own dedicated sinking food or they will starve.

WATER PARAMETERS

Temperature: 72–79 °F (22–26 °C). pH: 6.0–7.0. GH: 2–12 dGH. KH: 0–6 dKH. They thrive in soft, slightly acidic water that mirrors their native habitat. Stability is critical; weekly 25–30% water changes keep quality high and trigger natural behaviour.

TEMPERAMENT & TANKMATES

Peaceful and gregarious — keep 6 or more. Ideal companions are small blackwater community species: Neon, Cardinal, Ember and Rummynose Tetras, Hatchetfish, Pencilfish, Otocinclus, dwarf rasboras, and peaceful Apistogramma. Avoid aggressive or large predatory tankmates.

BREEDING

Can be bred with attention to detail. Condition heavily on live and frozen foods, then trigger spawning with a large, cool water change. Females deposit eggs in the classic 'T-position'. Eggs hatch in 3–5 days; fry need pristine water and microworms or baby brine shrimp.

HEALTH & ACCLIMATION

Generally hardy from quality stock in stable, well-oxygenated water. Sensitive to nitrate-heavy water and copper-based medications. Quarantine new arrivals 2–4 weeks and drip-acclimate over 45–60 minutes.



APPROXIMATE SHIPPING SIZE

Adolfo's Cories ship at approximately 0.75–1 inch (2–2.5 cm). Adult size is approximately 2–2.4 inch (50–60 mm). All orders are covered by our Live Arrival Guarantee.

TECHNICAL DATA

Family	Callichthyidae
Origin	Upper Rio Negro, Brazil
Bred	Captive Bred
Care	Easy-Moderate
Adult size	2-2.4 in (50-60 mm)
Min tank	20 gallons (~75 L)
Lifespan	5-8 years
Temperament	Peaceful, gregarious
Diet	Omnivore (foraging)
pH	6.0-7.0
Temperature	72-79 °F (22-26 °C)
GH	2-12 dGH
KH	0-6 dKH
Group	6+ recommended

FROM OUR KNOWLEDGE BASE

Water chemistry essentials

- **Cycle first.** Add livestock only to a fully cycled, matured tank — ammonia and nitrite at 0, nitrate kept low with weekly water changes.
- **GH & KH.** General hardness feeds livestock; carbonate hardness buffers pH. Match the ranges in the table above rather than chasing a single number.
- **Stability over targets.** Most freshwater species adapt to a wider range than the internet suggests, as long as water is clean, stable, and well-cycled.

Drip acclimation, step by step

1. Float the sealed bag 15–20 min to match temperature.
2. Open into a clean container; start a slow drip from your tank.
3. Drip over 45–60 min until the volume roughly triples.
4. Net the fish into the tank — never pour bag water in.
5. Quarantine new arrivals 2–4 weeks before adding to a display tank.

Live Arrival Guarantee. Every order is packed with a heat or cool pack as the forecast requires and arrives healthy, or we make it right. Photograph any loss within 2 hours of delivery and email help@jojoaquatics.com.

— The JoJo Aquatics team, Key West, Florida


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SCAN TO SHOP

jojoaquatics.com/products/adolfos-cory

CARE LEVEL

Easy-Moderate

MIN TANK

20 gallons (~75 L)

TEMPERATURE

72-79 °F (22-26 °C)

PH

6.0-7.0

GROUP

6+ recommended

KEEPING ESSENTIALS

- Keep 6 or more over fine sand in a 20-gallon (~75 L) or larger tank — never coarse gravel.
- Soft, acidic blackwater — 72-79 °F (22-26 °C), pH 6.0-7.0, GH 2-12 dGH.
- Offer dedicated sinking pellets and wafers, plus frozen bloodworm, tubifex, and daphnia.
- Peaceful and gregarious — ideal with small blackwater tetras, pencilfish, and rasboras.
- Weekly 25-30% water changes; sensitive to nitrate and copper-based medications.

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ACCLIMATION IN BRIEF

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