

# Tough, Smart, and Easy to Breed: Your Free Convict Cichlid Guide

By Robert Schmidt



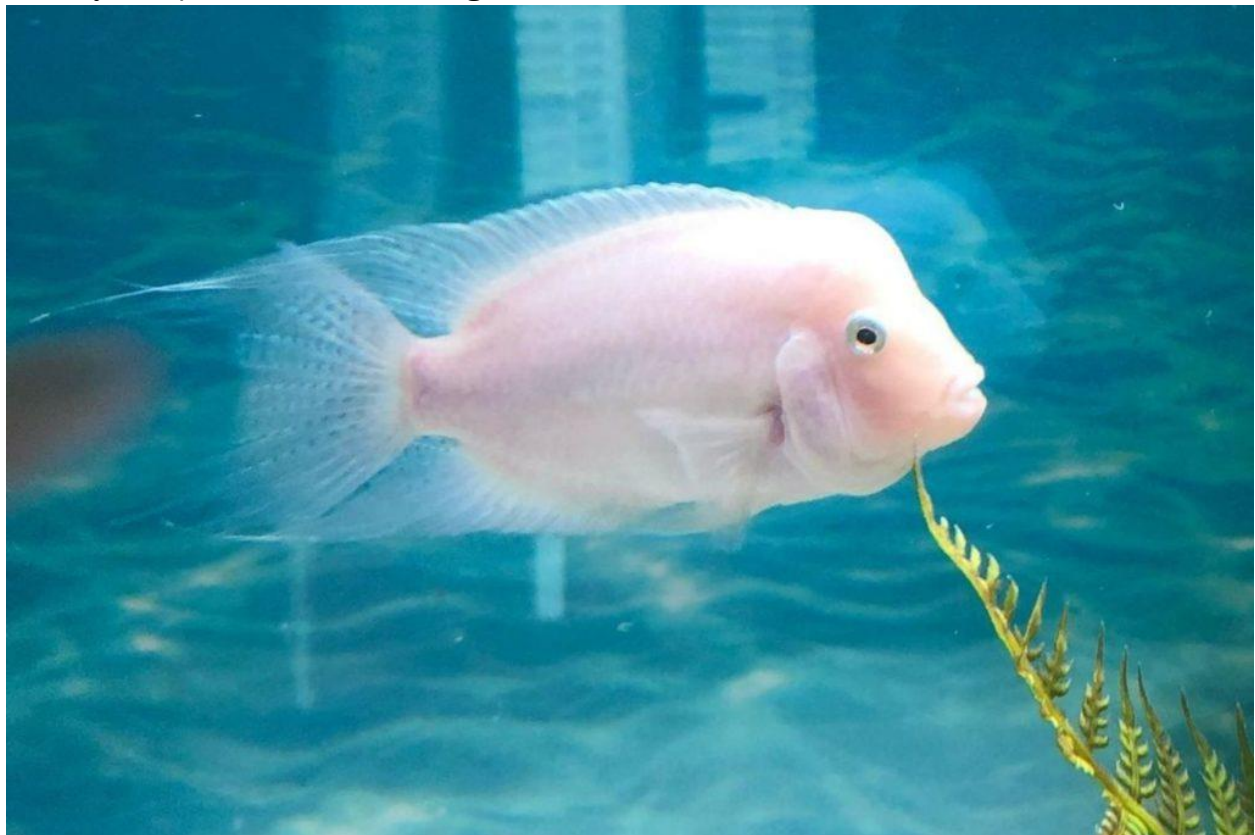
## INTRODUCTION

Convict cichlids (*Amatitlania nigrofasciata*) are a freshwater species of cichlid that come from Central America. Their different types can be found in countries all along the Atlantic and Pacific coasts such as Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras. Convict cichlids get their name from the series of black vertical bars that run down their bodies. The coloration can

vary based on age, gender, and type with average convict lifespan spanning 8 to 12 years depending on their care. The average size is 4 to 5 inches in length. Minimum tank size is 29 gallons and try to decorate tank as close to natural habitat that has plenty of wood and rocks for them to use as a place to hide in between feeding. Live Food is always the best. Occasionally see if they will eat guppies. Live blood worms are sometimes available at local tropical fish stores. Frozen blood worms and brine shrimp are good substitutes when live food not available.

## Easy Cichlid to Sex

Male and female Convict Cichlids are similar in appearance, but there are a few key differences that make them easy to tell apart. Males are generally larger and have longer, more pointed dorsal and anal fins. They often develop a noticeable bump or nuchal hump on their heads as they mature. Females, on the other hand, are smaller and have a rounder body shape. One of the most distinctive features of female Convicts is the bright orange or reddish coloration on their bellies, which becomes even more vibrant during breeding. Males may show some color, but it's usually much less intense. These differences help hobbyists identify and pair them for breeding.



Male Pink Variety



Male Convict Cichlid





Female Pink Convict



Female Convict Cichlid



Female Convict Cichlid

## RESULTS

Feed baby fry ground up flake food and separate from parents at 3 weeks in another small aquarium then sell to your relatives and friends or the local pet store or online.

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