




## LPS Coral - General Guide

<b>Difficulty:</b>  <b>MED</b>	<b>Water Flow:</b>  <b>LOW - MED</b>	<b>Lighting:</b>  <b>LOW - MED</b>
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\*Difficulty: MEDIUM \*Water Flow: Low to medium \*Lighting: Low to Medium

LPS corals ('large polyp stony corals') have a calcium carbonate based skeleton with large polyps or tentacles made from soft tissue capable of expanding and retracting.

There are a huge variety of LPS available. They offer some of the most visually stunning additions to the reef aquarium. High end LPS often come in ultra bright rainbow colours.

Long polyps give a lot of movement, bringing a new, often hypnotic visual element to the aquarium. They often have anemone like tentacles but can not move independently. Other LPS have circular polyps or 'heads' that grow in clusters.

### EXAMPLES OF SPECIES INCLUDE:

Torch corals, Hammer corals, chalice corals, Brain Corals, Goniopora, Lobophyllia, Trachyphyllia, Acans, Blasto, Candy Canes, Cataphyllia, Duncan and Favia.

### FLOW / WATER MOVEMENT: LOW to MEDIUM

LPS corals prefer low to moderate flow. Therefore, this should consist of indirect flow as direct flow can cause tissue damage to the coral.

### LIGHTING: MEDIUM

We aim to keep our LPS in a par range of 50-150 PAR. Some prefer dimmer conditions, they generally do not require the same high intensity as SPS Corals.

### FEEDING / NUTRIENT LEVEL:

The tentacles / mouths of many LPS are capable of catching sizeable prey such as small zooplankton / shrimps. They will often catch uneaten fish food and can survive on this alone but Supplementary target feeding with a suitable food is also an option.

**NOTES:** Because of the hard skeleton base of these corals it's especially important to maintain calcium and alkalinity levels at the correct amount. These corals should be handled by the hard base and care should be taken not to damage the soft tissue parts. The soft tissue will deflate when disturbed and is often capable of expanding to much larger size. LPS are usually capable of stinging neighbouring corals so placement should be a consideration. Some Larger LPS may pose some threat to small fish and inverts!

This is a general guide only – there will be some exceptions to these rules – please research needs of particular species being kept. Please Come Visit us online or in store @ [coreshop.uk](https://www.coreshop.uk)

