

Is it a frog or is it a toad?

How does one distinguish a frog from a toad? Most are surprised to hear that all **toads** actually are **frogs**!!

The following information came from the web site allaboutfrogs.org



Generally speaking, when we think of **frogs**, we picture what are called “True Frogs” which are members of the family *Ranidae*, containing more than 400 species. These frogs have the characteristics of:

- two bulging eyes
- strong, long, webbed hind feet that are adapted for leaping and swimming
- smooth or slimy skin (generally , frogs tend to like moister environments)
- frogs tend to lay eggs in clusters



Frogs from this family can be found on every continent except Antarctica. They are referred to as the “true frogs” because of their generalized body form and life history: the so-called generic frog.

Members of this family include the bullfrog, common frog, green frog, leopard frog, marsh frog, pickerel frog, and wood frog.



The term **toads** tends to refer to “True Toads” – members of the family *Bufo**nidae*, containing more than 300 species. These types of frogs are characterized by:

- stubby bodies with short hind legs (for walking instead of hopping)

- warty and dry skin (usually preferring dryer climates)
- paratoid (or poison) glands behind the eyes
- the chest cartilage of toads is different also.
- Toads tend to lay eggs in long chains.



(There are some toads (*genera Nectophrynoides*), however that are the types that bear live young!)

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The rest of this article can be found in the articles section of the member's forum. Informative items like this can be found regularly in the monthly newsletter, along with tips and tricks to keep your pond in top shape. You can obtain your [application here](#).

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