



Volume 1, Issue 13, 2021

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Setting Up Your New Aquarium

Decide where the best location for your new aquarium is. Pick a location away from direct sunlight, heat, or air conditioning. Direct sunlight can cause unwanted algae growth that can cover your rocks and decorations. Placement of the aquarium away from heating and air conditioning vents is also important, because it is easier to maintain proper aquarium temperature when the surrounding air temperature is relatively stable. Place the aquarium where you will be able to see and appreciate the beauty of your new aquarium.

Place your aquarium on a level surface. A sturdy table or counter is recommended because an aquarium filled with water, gravel, rocks, and decorations will weigh about 10 lbs. per gallon. To avoid the aquarium’s plug or electrical wall receptacle from getting wet, position the tank and stand to one side of a wall mounted receptacle to prevent water from dripping onto it, a “Drip Loop” should be formed.



Adds Beauty to Any Room

Rinse your aquarium gravel and decorations thoroughly. Empty the bag of gravel into a collard or new plastic bucket (or one that has never been used with chemicals). Place the bucket in sink and turn the cold water on, allowing the tap water to fill the bucket. Gently stir the gravel as the water runs through and continue to do so until the water runs clear. Place gravel, rocks and decorations in the tank now, spreading the gravel evenly across the bottom of the aquarium.

Fill the aquarium with water to within two inches from the top of the tank. Treat water with a water conditioner to remove chlorine and chloramines from tap water which can be harmful to your fish. Confirm water temperature in aquarium has reached room temperature. Plug the filter and light in and allow the aquarium to run for 24 hours before adding fish.

Hardy Tropical Fish for Beginners

Once you have set up your aquarium you’ll be ready to choose your new fish. In order to maintain a stress-free, friendly, freshwater fish tank, it is important to ensure compatibility exists with your new fish. Non-aggressive fish enable the beginner aquarist to be far more successful since their pets are less territorial towards tank mates.

Remember, your tank is still cycling, while adding beneficial bacteria can help this process, it’s always wise to start off with a small amount of fish and monitor your water chemistry to ensure your tank is cycling okay. Don’t add too many fish and overcrowd your tank. Allow the tank to cycle through properly, which can take 4 to 6 weeks. Be sure to tell your aquarium store associate that you just set up a new fish tank and want to add fish. Start out slowly.

Recommended Fish

- 1.Mollies
- 2.Danios
- 3.Swordtails
- 4.Platies
- 5.White Clouds
- 6.Cherry Barbs
- 7.Kuhli Loach
- 8.Corydoras Catfish
- 9.Betta Fish
- 10.Guppies



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Adding New Fish



Tropical Fish are Fun!

Be sure the fish you choose are healthy and active. Check to ensure there aren't any sores or ulcers and that their fins look good. Only pick up one or two fish to add to your aquarium initially as it takes 4 to 6 weeks for the tank to cycle through, don't overcrowd.

Generally the number of fish you can keep in your tank depends on the type of fish and amount of bio-load in your tank.

Transport your fish home and place the bag on the aquarium's surface, floating the bag with your fish for fifteen minutes.

Open the bag containing your new fish, taking care that the bag does not collapse, and add a little aquarium water every two minutes directly to bag. Continue this process for 10 minutes, allowing the bag to fill with water. Take bag with fish to sink and gently scoop fish out with a net or pour bag of water into net. Now gently place fish into aquarium. Do not add water from fish bag in order to prevent introduction of possible disease or parasites from store water.

Leave your aquarium lights off for 48 hours to allow your fish to acclimate to their new surroundings.

Feeding Your Fish

Avoid overfeeding. Overfeeding your aquarium is one of the most common mistakes made in aquarium ownership and is the major causes of fish loss. Overfeeding results in the accumulation of waste due to uneaten, leftover fish food plus increased amounts of waste produced by the fish eating more than they need.

It's easy to feed extra since your fish always appears hungry and is seems happy to see you especially when it's feeding time.



Adds Beauty to Any Room

Keep in mind that your fish will always become excited when they see you coming towards the tank with food. Don't be fooled by their ability to look hungry as this is typically only a conditioned feeding response when you approach the tank. Your fish should be fed small amounts of pelleted or flake food twice a day, no more than they can eat in a minute or two. Some fish require more feedings than others. Most fish do fine with everyday or other day feedings. You have to remember that fish are opportunistic feeders.

Keeping Your Tank Looking Beautiful



Family Enjoyment

Do not try to lift or carry your aquarium or damage to the tank may occur. Ideally, you should change 20% - 25% of the aquarium's water every 3 to 4 weeks, depending on the number of fish and amount of daily feedings, by performing a partial water change using a gravel vacuum siphon. A gravel vacuum will enable you to remove fish waste and other detritus that has accumulated in the gravel. Gently inserting the nozzle end of the vacuum into the gravel while moving it around the bottom of the tank, holding the vacuum tube in place for one second before moving to the next area. When finished, fill a unused or new bucket with fresh water, be sure to use a tap water conditioner to remove chlorine, chloramines and ammonia from your tap water that can be harmful to your fish.



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