



EcoStyle 32 37 42 47 61 81

Hints & Tips For Best Results

LIVE PLANTS

Once the water conditions and pH levels have been corrected, live plants can be added to the aquarium. Remember to empty some water from the aquarium before adding anything to it.

REMEMBER LIVE PLANTS NEED TO BE FED!

An aquarium safe plant fertiliser should be used.

LIGHTING

No more than 8 hours of light each day and definitely no natural light. Longer light times will accelerate algae growth in the aquarium and has no benefit to plants or fish.

FILTER MEDIA

Biological Filtration (Filter Sponge)

Biological filtration is a process where toxic nitrogen compounds such as ammonia and nitrite (Fish waste) are removed from the system via a breakdown process carried out by nitrifying bacteria. (Nitrobacter and Nitrosomonas). These nitrifying bacteria need substrate with a high surface area to adhere to such as a sponge or aquarium substrate (gravel).

- When starting a new system it is important to remember that bacteria takes time to develop and grow.
- You can speed up the process by 'seeding' the system with commercially available bacterial cultures / filter supplements.
- Over time this media can block up or break down so it is important to monitor it.

Seek advice from your Aquarium Specialist if either of these problems arise.

Mechanical/Chemical Filtration (Carbon Cartridge)

This is the removal of dissolved organic and inorganic substances through adsorption on a porous substrate or by direct chemical removal. Dissolved organic compounds are what turns the water a yellow-brown colour or causes foaming at the surface of the aquarium and need to be removed.

- Remove carbon cartridge if treating fish with medication.
- Replace every 6 – 8 weeks as the carbons absorption capacity will have depleted.
- Rinse well before placing in the aquarium. (in tap water)

Mechanical Filtration (Filter Sponge)

This is the process whereby suspended solids or particulate matter are removed from the water.

It is important to remove suspended solids not only to improve clarity of the water but also to:

- Avoid smothering the gills with solids such that fish cannot breathe.
- Decrease risk of disease outbreaks - there are high numbers of bacteria associated with suspended organic solids.
- Can also act as a biological filter medium by providing sufficient surface area to host beneficial bacteria.



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Trouble Shooting

LIGHT UNIT DOES NOT WORK

1. Ensure switch is in the on position on the top of the light unit.
2. Check light is plugged into power supply and the switch is on.

POWER HEAD WORKING BUT NO / SLOW WATER FLOW

1. Check impeller is in good condition and replace if needed.
2. Make sure water level in aquarium is above the power head. Please note the power head is a water proof unit.
3. Clean impeller, power head and all inlet and outlet pipes.
4. Check that the spray bar is inserted correctly with the end cap at the opposite end to the elbow.

AQUARIUM POSSIBLY LEAKING

1. Clean carbon cartridge as this can create an overflow.
2. Make sure spray bar holes are pointed down onto the carbon cartridge.
3. If an air stone is being used check it is not bubbling water over the rim of the aquarium if so turn the air pump down.
4. Make sure the aquarium is sitting on a level surface.
5. If it is a salt water aquarium remove any salt creep as it can drain water from the aquarium.
- 6a. Lift the lid and remove the filter unit from the top of the aquarium. Mark the water level. Remove any excess water that may be sitting on the edge of the aquarium. Leave for an hour. If water level drops proceed to step 7b.
- 6b. Remove the fish, decorations and gravel. Empty the aquarium and clean the glass **DO NOT WASH IN SOAP OR DETERGENT**. Place a piece of newspaper on a flat level solid surface. Carefully fill the aquarium ensuring not to spill any water on to the newspaper. Leave the aquarium for several hours and then inspect the newspaper for wet patches.