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Purchasing New Fish

So you just set up your new aquarium and are getting ready to purchase fish. It is always best to do a little research before going to your aquarium store. There are many types of fish to choose from such as tropical versus coldwater, territorial or community, aggressive or peaceful? Here are some questions you should ask to help ensure you have made the right choice in selecting your new pets.



Tiger Barbs are ideal beginner fish but can be fin nippers

Aggressive or Peaceful Fish

If you want a peaceful aquarium, you'll probably won't want an aggressive fish that spends its day chasing everyone else around, nipping at fins. If you have a fish that's timid, you might want to be selective in the type of fish you add. You'll want to choose fish that will get along with each other.

Territorial Fish

When it comes to choosing a fish that is territorial, like some of the barbs, it is best to provide ornaments and other decorations so they can hide and rest from others while being able to establish their own territorial boundaries. Territorial fish do not often tolerate others of their own species, so it is best to just buy one.



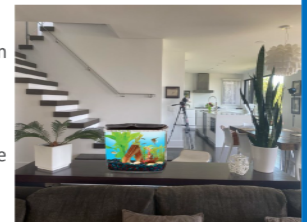
Weather Loaches can grow to 20 inches

How Big will the Fish Grow to

Always check how large the fish will be when they mature. Typically the fish you see in the aquarium store are usually younger and will grow larger with age. Be mindful in the number of fish you bring home, don't overcrowd.

What Should I Feed My Fish

Aquarium fish need the correct diet to keep them healthy. Feeding the wrong diet can cause deficiencies, health issues and stunted growth. Fish food comes in a wide range of formulas for different dietary needs and physical feeding habits that you can choose based on the type of fish you have. While most tropical fish do okay on a diet of flake, pellet or frozen foods, some fish eat specific kinds of food. Determine if your fish are carnivores, omnivores, or herbivores and choose the recommended fish food to ensure long-lived and healthy fish.



An Aquarium Adds Beauty to any Room

Does Your Fish Require Specific Temperatures

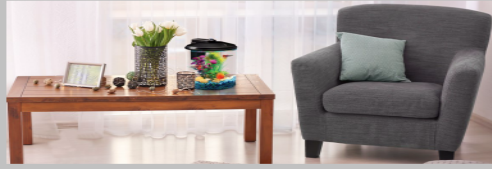
One of the most important considerations in maintaining a healthy aquarium and stable environment is your aquarium's water temperature. A steady water temperature is necessary so your fish are not stressed and susceptible to disease. If you find the aquarium's water temperature is fluctuating daily by more than a couple of degrees you should consider adding an aquarium heater and thermometer. Always research the type of fish you are looking to purchase or ask the aquarium store if they require special water temperature.



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Email: customerservice@sunnywaycn.com

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Hardy Fish for Beginners

Zebra Danio

Care Level : Beginners and up

Size : Up to 2 inches

Temperature : 65°F - 75°F

pH : 6.5 – 8.0

Lifespan : 2 - 5 years

Temperament / Behavior : Hardy, peaceful and compatible.

Best if kept in schools of four or more of same. Can be fin nippers to tank mates.

Aquarium Size : 2 gallon or larger.

Compatible Tank Mates : Gourami, Swordtails, Platys, Tetras , Danios and Corydoras Catfish.

Diet / Foods : Flake food, frozen and freeze-dried foods such as brine shrimp, blood worms and daphnia.

Tank Region : Middle to top levels

Gender : Males have yellow in between the black stripes while females are sometimes larger.

Breeding: Egg layers

Origin: India



Active Community Fish

Why does my aquarium water have a bad odor?

The first thing to do is test your water for ammonia and nitrite levels with an aquarium test kit. A smell usually is a sign of excess waste usually from overcrowding or excess feedings and uneaten fish food. First if you have too many fish and your tank is overcrowded, go ahead and remove some of your fish and place them in a different fish tank (be sure to acclimate them to the new aquarium). Then perform a 25% partial water change with a gravel vacuum, gently cleaning the gravel on the bottom of the tank. If the issue is due to over-feeding, cut back on the amount of food you are feeding per feeding.

Why is my aquarium's water foamy?

If your aquarium is newly set-up, it may be from filling your aquarium. Bubbles or foam can be created as the water's surface is agitated, causing bubbles or foam to form. Or it may be the tap water conditioner you using, some water conditioners contain aloe or a thickening agent that can cause bubbles or foam to form at the aquarium's surface. Wait a couple days and the foam will disappear. If your aquarium has been set up a couple weeks it is time for you to do a partial water change.



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