

FISH TANK

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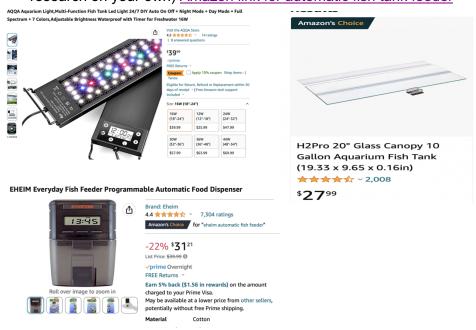
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1. Tank

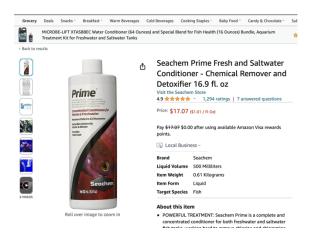
Start with a minimum of 10-Gallon fish tank, you can get a bigger one if you like.

- Get a simple plain fish tank and build the accessories on your own
- Get an over-the-tank lighting, with auto turn on and off feature. Lighting should be anywhere between 6-10 hrs to supplement sunlight. The more sunlight the tank gets, the less the time of the lighting, to prevent algae build up in tank. Amazon link for fish tank lighting
- Get a glass canopy 10 (if it is a 10-gallon tank): <u>Amazon link for glass canopy</u>
- Get an automatic fish tank feeder. The point of getting the glass canopy is to be able to let
 the fish feeder sit on top of the tank. (There should be a better way to do this, feel free to
 research on your own) Amazon link for automatic fish tank feeder



2. Water

If you are using tap water, make sure to add 2 drops per gallon of PRIME (removes chlorine & chloramine). Amazon link for Prime water conditioner





3. Temperature

76 to 80F (need water heater) (temp monitor) there is the sticker type thermometer, it's cheaper and works just as well. Amazon link for heater & temp monitor, Amazon link for temp monitor



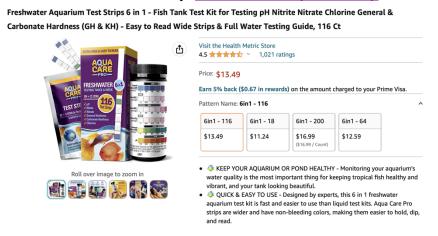
4. Filtration

Use Aquaclear 20 for filtration, change all three once a month: sponge, biomax, activated charcoal filter. Amazon link for fish tank filter



5. pH

Should be around 7.0 add DISCUS BUFFER at a rate of 1 tsp per 10 gallon daily until desired pH is reached. I use this testing strips to check the water condition DAILY for a good 3 months to monitor the Nitrites mainly. Amazon link for pH test strip

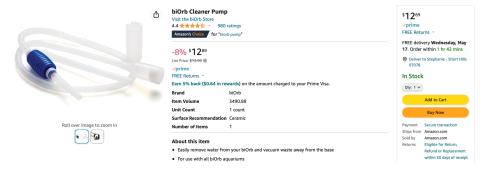


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6. Water Pump

You would need a water pump to pump the water from the tank once or twice a month. This pump works great. Amazon link for water pump



7. Live Plant

It helps with the microbiome of the water.

8. Do Not Get Gravel

I find it hard to keep the tank clean. The simpler the better. You are not going for the looks of the tank.

9. Types of Fishes

A minimum of 9 fishes are needed, of which, 2 must be black, 2 must be white, and the rest can be red and other colors. Inexpensive fishes will do.

I get the albino red eye swordtail for my red fishes, and dalmatian molly for my black and white fishes. Although mostly dalmatian mollies are a mix of black and white, they do come in solid colors. Platy fish can come in red colors too.

10. Fish Food

Micro pellets can go into the fish feeder, occasionally, I put a pinch of brine shrimp for the fishes. Feeding the fishes once a day, starting with a small pinch. <u>Amazon link for fish food</u>, Amazon link for brine shrimp



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11. Steps by Days

- 1. DAY 1 : Fill the tank with tap or filter water (Reverse Osmosis type of filtration, not the BRITA type), turn on filter and heater. Add discus buffer daily until pH is 6.8-7.2
- 2. If you can get an old piece of a fish tank filter from your fish store (for free), it will help to grow bacteria.
- 3. AFTER day 5-7, you can start adding fishes to the tank, starting from 2-3 at a time.
- 4. Feeding the fishes once a day, starting with a small pinch. Testing the water daily mainly to monitor the nitrites level. If nitrites show up on the testing strip, it means that you put too much fish food. One way to see if the fishes are full is to observe them while they are eating. If they eat the food and spit them out, that means they are full. It is very crucial to keep the nitrites out of the tank as they are toxins to the fishes. A tank full of nitrites means your fishes are swimming in their wastewater. If nitrites show up, change water frequently and add 15 drops of prime everyday until the tank is free of nitrite.
- 5. Ideally, you should change 10% of a tank of water weekly or 20% biweekly. I can get by with once in a few months. The water in my tank does evaporate and I just add the reverse osmosis filter water once a week.
- 6. Order the Seachem Prime to remove the chlorine in your tap water before adding it to the fish tank.

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