

# FISH ARRIVAL GUIDE - Part 3

Getting a new fish is an exciting time and while it's tempting to put him straight in the tank so you can admire him, there are a few important things to do to make sure he settles in well. Please check Fish Arrival Guides Part 1 and 2 to ensure your tank is set up correctly and learn about the important parameters and conditions for your new friend.

Whether you're a first time or seasoned fish hobbyist, here are some tips to get you started!

## FISH INTRODUCTIONS Where can I order fish online?



Once you have successfully cycled your fish tank, it's time to pick out a fish!

It's important to select your fish from a reputable store. If you're having fish shipped to you, check that the store has a Live Fish Guarantee Live Fish policy. This guarantees your purchase and also encourages the store to keep best fish practices so that you can be sure your new companion has been well looked after and shipped with care. A good store choice means your fish will be sent with a premium shipping company and packed with his wellbeing in mind. Your fish will also have been raised in appropriate conditions, and care taken to keep him as healthy as possible.

## FISH QUARANTINE

### How do I introduce new fish?



If you already have fish in your tank, best practice is to quarantine any newcomers. Quarantine is recommended so you can be sure your new fish won't introduce any diseases or parasites to your established fish tank. To successfully quarantine your new fish, you will need a secondary tank, separate to your main tank. You should consider your quarantine tank as an extension to your main tank - it will need all the same necessities as your established tank. It will need to be set up with the same parameters and cycled, so testing the water is essential.

Once your fish has arrived, you need to acclimatise him carefully. You should also avoid suddenly exposing your fish to bright light, particularly if he has been shipped in a dark box. He needs to be introduced in such a way that allows him to adjust to changes in water temperature. The easiest way to do this is sit the closed bag on top of your tank water for a minimum of 15 minutes. This gives your fish time to adjust to the temperature and settle after their journey. It's not uncommon for fish to lose some of their colour and appear a little 'washed out' at first. Once they are swimming freely and settling in to their new home, their colour should start to return. Read more about what can affect the colours of your fish here!

Typically, a new fish should be quarantined for 2 to 4 weeks, with daily monitoring for any obvious signs of illness or parasites. Any problems that you may notice in your new fish need to be treated and cured before moving him to your main tank. Moving your quarantined fish is an easy task - fill a plastic bag with water from your main tank and scoop your fish up with a net. Seal the bag and rest it on the surface of your main tank for a minimum of 15 minutes before releasing him.

Once your fish has successfully moved to his new home, you should clean out the quarantine tank with water and bleach - roughly 200ml bleach to 1 litre of water. Using this mixture, scrub your quarantine tank clean and allow it to air dry, then store it securely. If you're planning to add more fish to your community tank soon, you can begin cycling your quarantine tank once again.



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# AQUARIUM GUIDES

Our Aquarium Guides are here to guide you and give you the inside scoop on taking care of your fish and maintaining your aquarium! Check out the rest of the series below:

Part 1: [Fish Arrival Guide](#)

Part 2: [Aquarium Parameters](#)

Part 3: [Fish Introductions](#) and [Fish Quarantine](#)

Part 4: [Tank Maintenance](#) and [Common Fish Illnesses](#)



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