

Make your aquarium a success

The right **aquarium**

Involves 3 crucial factors:

Light

- Light is the main energy source for plants.
- Light intensity decides which plants you can choose.
- The better the light, the more plant choice you have.

Fertiliser

You need:

- Bottom substrate to store nutrients for the plant roots.
- Liquid fertiliser for daily use.
- Poss. CO2 addition, promoting plant growth, and therefore reducing the creation of algae.

Water movement

- You need to ensure that the aquarium is equipped with a pump and a filter for water circulation and collection of small particles.

The right **plants**

Involves selecting plants, based on your aquarium conditions:



Easy are simple plants with few requirements. They tolerate low light conditions (under 0.5 W/litre aquarium water) and manage without added CO2.



Medium plants require stronger light (between 0.5-1.0 W/litre water), as well as CO2 addition and fertiliser.



Advanced plants require light intensity of minimum 1 W/litre water, extra fertiliser and CO2, as well as intensive care and plant cutting.

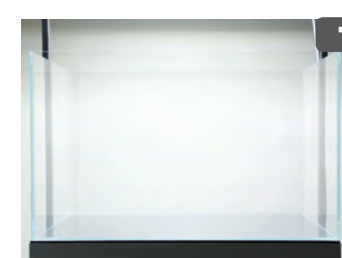
NB: Based on a fluorescent tube, type T5 with reflectors.

The right **fish**

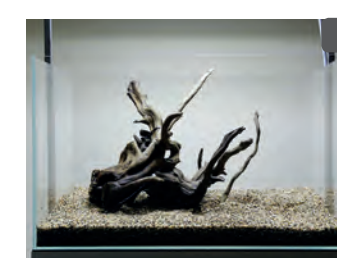
Involves 3 crucial factors:

- Maximum **1cm fish per litre** water. A full-grown neon tetra is for instance approx. 4 cm long, so a 100 L aquarium should not exceed 25 fish.
- Use **algae-eating** fish, shrimps and snails.
- Selecting fish is a matter of taste, and options are numerous. Please **ask your dealer** about the behaviour and needs of the fish, and when they should be put in the aquarium after planting.

Get the right start at home:



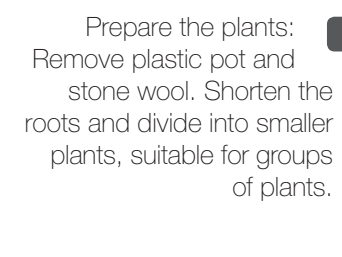
1 Place your aquarium sheltered from direct sunlight. Consider how you want it to look. Find inspiration for great aquariums on www.tropica.com under Inspiration/layouts.



2 First, place all decoration material (such as stones or roots), if you intend to use some. Then spread out a 1 cm thick layer of substrate where your plants should go and cover it with at least 4 cm of gravel.



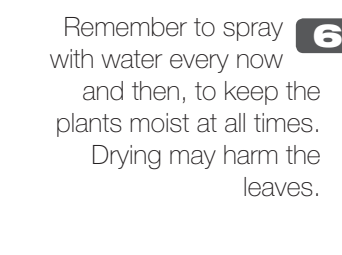
3 Carefully pour water into the aquarium, and wet the bottom layer. Use a plate or sift to slow down the water jet, in order to avoid making a mess of the bottom layer.



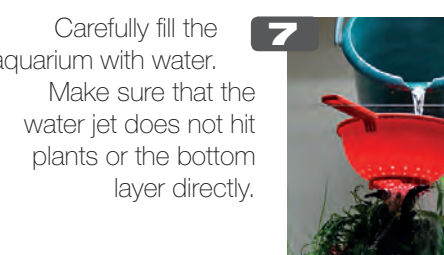
Prepare the plants: Remove plastic pot and stone wool. Shorten the roots and divide into smaller plants, suitable for groups of plants.



5 Use tweezers for easy planting.



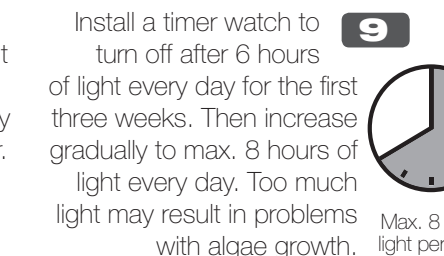
Remember to spray with water every now and then, to keep the plants moist at all times. Drying may harm the leaves.



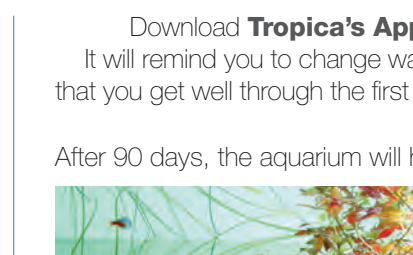
Carefully fill the aquarium with water. Make sure that the water jet does not hit plants or the bottom layer directly.



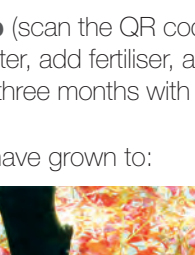
8 The water may look a bit cloudy for a few days. Don't worry – it will get better.



Install a timer watch to turn off after 6 hours of light every day for the first three weeks. Then increase gradually to max. 8 hours of light every day. Too much light may result in problems with algae growth. Max. 8 h. of light per day.



Download **Tropica's App** (scan the QR code below). It will remind you to change water, add fertiliser, and ensure that you get well through the first three months with aquarium.



On the back of the folder, you will find links to our website www.tropica.com, where you will find plenty of detailed information.

More about...

Scan the QR codes and go directly to info on www.tropica.com

More about the right **aquarium**



The bottom layer
Gravel, substrate and decoration material.



Waterchange
The easy way to do it?



Light above the aquarium
What do I need to know about light?



Hardscape
What is it?



Inspiration
See great layouts here.



Fertiliser and CO2
Why and how much? See the Plant Care products.

More about the right **plants**



Plants from A-Z
Easy, Medium, Advanced.



Plant products
On wood, in pots and portions... Which plants where?



Planting
The best way to do it?



Cutting
Different plant types.



Auxiliary plants
How do they help?



Tropica's App
How will it help me?

More about the right **fish**



The right fish
How do I choose?



Algae-eating fish, shrimps and snails
They help you keep the aquarium clean.



Inspiration for beautiful aquariums



◀ **Layout 43**

The cube's 30 x 30 cm is perfect for a simple hardscape with only one root placed in the middle of the aquarium. The root will look more natural over time because it will be covered with moss. Scan the QR code and see a video about this **Easy** aquarium.

Did you know...?

That the words "**Layout**" and "**Aquascape**" are often used about planted aquariums. Layout especially refers to the position of the different decoration elements such as stones, roots and plants. Aquascape refers to the artistic aspect of the "water landscape", which the aquarist has created with plants and other decoration.



Layout 45 ▼

A natural layout with a focus on different shapes and colours. Even though the aquarium is full of colours, the plants used are relatively easy to care for. Scan the QR code and see a video about this **Medium** aquarium that also includes **Easy** plants.



Quick Guide

The **safe** way to make your aquarium a success