

GUPPY BRIEFS #21

Setting Up A New Tank

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It is very easy to set up a new tank and have it running immediately. This technique would require that you already have an established tank.

Step 1: Transfer water from the established tank(s) to the new tank. An example of this would be an empty ten gallon tank that would be filled halfway up say about 5 gallons. Now add the treated fresh water(Treated water: removal of chlorine, chloramine and ammonia) to the new 10 gallon tank say about 3 gallons.

Step 2: Take a filter from one of your tanks not the ones that you took the water from (the reason for this is never change water in a tank and change the filter at the same time (if you only have one working filter in the tank)). If using a box filter/sponge filter this is an easy step.

Step 3: After about one hour check the water parameters of the new tank before putting your fish in. Also remember to acclimate your fish before putting them in their new home.

Changing filter floss in a tank that has a box filter in the tank.

If using only one box filter in a tank I would take out the dirty filter floss and break off half of the floss and rinse it in warm water until it is fairly clean . I would place then place the rinsed filter floss back into the now clean box filter and top it off with new filter floss to make up the difference. A word of caution do not rinse in hot water or cold water as you may kill a lot of the beneficial bacteria that resides in the rinsed filter floss. If using a sponge filter rinse as mentioned above then place that newly rinsed sponge filter into the new tank.... I have at times squeezed a fairly clean working sponge filter into the new tank thereby extracting the good bacteria from the sponge filter into the new tank.

I would however like to add that by having two working filters in a tank is better than having one working filter ,especially when you are changing / replacing your dirty filter because you still have a working one just in case the newly replaced filter is not biologically working yet.

Note: GUPPY BRIEFS Number 22 will cover setting up a new tank when you don't have another working established tank.