



GOLDFISH

SETTING UP YOUR AQUARIUM/BOWL

Wash everything thoroughly with fresh water including gravel. Do not use soap, cleaners or anything, which may have had chemicals in it. Fill the aquarium/bowl 2/3 with tap water. Set up filtration system, then decorate and fill the aquarium/bowl. Treat the water with Water Conditioner, which removes chlorine and ammonia. New water lacks beneficial bacteria, which are essential to break down your fishes waste. Without these bacteria, the waste accumulates and can poison your fish. This is called 'new tank syndrome'. To avoid this, Purer Water should be added to all new water. Purer Water is a liquefied bacterium, which assists in the establishment of helpful bacteria in your tank.

Maintaining pH is the most important factor in keeping fish successfully. PH is a measure of the alkalinity or acidity of water. It is essential that you use a neutralising block, which helps control pH, or regularly testing the water using a pH test kit. Goldfish require a neutral pH to survive. Your fish's waste and food will cause the pH to become acidic. Acidic waste will kill your goldfish.

WATER CHANGES ON AQUARIUMS

25% of the aquarium water should be changed monthly using a gravel cleaner. The gravel cleaner siphons water from the tank whilst removing dirt from the gravel, enabling you to clean the tank without dismantling it. A new tank should be gravel cleaned every 4 weeks.

When your aquarium needs a total clean, be sure to use Purer Water to replace the beneficial bacteria lost in the cleaning process.

WATER CHANGES IN BOWLS

A bowl should have a water change every 7-10 days. 1/3 of the water should be kept. Place the water in a clean container with the fish, then clean out the bowl and gravel thoroughly. Refill the bowl 2/3 with clean water adding Water Conditioner and Purer Water. Let it sit for 10 mins then return the saved 1/3 water and the fish to the bowl.

ALGAE

Algae' growing on rocks, gravel and plants is caused through a combination of excess nutrients (e.g. Overfeeding) coupled with too much light. Therefore by reducing the amount of nutrients and light that the tank receives, and increasing the number of plants (which compete with the algae for light and nutrients) or using an aquarium algaecide will relieve this problem. Algae eating catfish and water snails are an excellent way of controlling algae.

FEEDING

Goldfish should be fed once a day and given only what they can eat in 1 minute. Uneaten food will pollute the water. Almost without exception, cloudy water is due to uneaten food.

You should vary your fish's diet. Like people, fish do not enjoy eating the same thing every day. Alternating between flakes, brine shrimp and bloodworm (frozen for live) is beneficial. The worms and shrimp help intensify the natural colour of your fish. If you are going on holiday use a vacation block. Do not overfeed before you go or leave feeding to an inexperienced friend.

Things you might need:

- **Water Conditioner recommended by Pet City**
- **Purer Water recommended by Pet City**
- **PH Test Kit**
- **Neutraliser Blocks**
- **Filter**
- **Gravel Cleaner**
- **Rocks/Plants**
- **Decorations/Backgrounds**
- **Food**
- **Aqua Salt**
- **Net**

This leaflet is just a basic guide. To find out more about your pet, ask Pet City about suitable books, remember – we are only a phone call away for expert advice. We also offer a free water testing service to help target possible water problems.

