

Useful information

Going on holiday

Just do not feed your discus fish. This has the same effect on the fish as fasting does on humans and can be positive for health. Discus fish (from 10 cm upwards) can live quite happily for 2-3 weeks without food. Lean times occur in the wild as well. You will not have to change the water during this time because practically no impurities will occur if you are not feeding your fish. Please note the following:

- Use a timer to control lighting
- Install an additional pump/filter in case one should fail
- Lower the temperature of the water to 27° C (lessens hunger!)

After your holidays you should feed your discus fish less at first and only increase the amount slowly. The fish and also the filters need time too get used to normal amounts of feed.

Did you know that

- most fish die during holidays because well-meaning neighbours feed them too much?
- changing the water temperature of 27-33° C will cause considerable changes in the behaviour of your discus fish?
- raising the water temperature will make your fish livelier and make them eat more?
- lowering the water temperature will make your discus fish calmer and better adjusted and they will not feel so hungry?
- a water temperature of 36° C is fatal for discus fish?
- the females only grow very slowly after they first spawn?
- discus fish defend their babies, and the young feed on a skin secretion of the parents in the first weeks of life?
- you can take out a reasonably priced aquarium insurance policy with your home insurance?
- the underwater world of an aquarium has a calm effect on many people and improving their feeling of well-being?
- STENDKER discus fish food is a favourite with other types of fish?

Important information

PLEASE NOTE!

Your discus population must not fall below the minimum stock of 10 fish (8 cm) per 180 litres, otherwise a single fish will be isolated from the group and will not get enough food!

You will find comprehensive information and useful tips on discus fish on our website:

www.Diskuszucht-Stendker.de

For example:

- preparing the tank and running in the filters
- general tips on setting up your aquarium
- introducing fish after transport
- tank mates in your discus fish aquarium
- feeding and food
- cleaning filters
- water values and water chemistry
- changing the water
- FAQs and answers on caring for discus fish
- useful tips

Feel free to print out this information and pass it on to others!

Aquariums can be that easy!

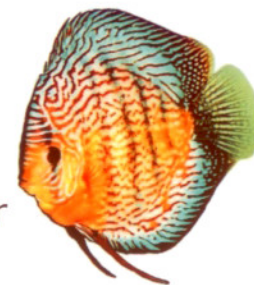
Bring a piece of unspoilt nature into your living room. Enjoy the beauty of the shapes and colours and the charming behaviour of our discus fish in your aquarium.

Relax and experience a very special type of entertainment.

With our STENDKER discus fish you will find out how simple and enjoyable aquariums are!

We wish you and our discus fish a long, healthy and enjoyable life.

STENDKER – your discus fish breeder



Diskuszucht Stendker
GmbH & Co. KG

www.Diskuszucht-Stendker.de



Discus fish breeding made in Germany
Discus aquariums made easy

Useful information

Discus fish belong to the cichlid family and originate from the Amazon River basin in South America. They are a schooling fish, enjoy company and therefore should be kept in schools of at least ten. Discus fish can reach a diameter size of up to 20 cm, can live up to 15 years and appear in a range of colour variations. They reach maturity at 1 ½ to 2 years old. Discus fish are frequently called the "king of the aquarium". In the wild discus fish feed on worms, small shrimps, insect larvae and plants.

You can buy discus fish caught from the wild, from Asian breeders or you can buy our STENDKER Discus fish (made in Germany) in pet stores. Check in advance which discus fish you want to buy since fish from different hatcheries will have different microbial strains and should not be kept together. If you decide to buy STENDKER discus fish from us, you can add fish of different sizes and colours at any time.

We have been breeding our STENDKER discus fish in Warendorf (Germany) for over 45 years and are Europe's largest discus hatchery. Throughout the world we are known for the high quality and robustness of our fish. When kept properly they will live a long time.

STENDKER discus fish are easy to keep because they live in tap water! We supply fish of all sizes and different varieties of colours throughout the year, also in large numbers. We guarantee that our discus fish are free from tapeworms and the discus fish disease.

Over the years we have developed our own food mix, which is specially balanced to suit the needs of discus fish. STENDKER discus fish food is exclusively used in our own hatchery.

It contains everything that discus fish need for a healthy diet. You can buy our STENDKER discus fish food through specialised stockists as a high-quality, comprehensive and very simple-to-use food.

This balanced food mixture will help to keep your fish healthy, keep their colours bright, will help your discus fish to breed and grow.

Some tips for your aquarium

Substrate

Quartz sand or fine gravel.

Plants

Cabomba, Amazon River basin, or similar plants adapted to temperatures of up to 30° C.

Lighting

12 hours daily. Use a timer to ensure regular lighting.

Filters

We recommend using internal filters; sponge filters are best.

For safety reasons we recommend two filters operating in parallel (as a backup in case one should fail).

Heating your aquarium

Submersible thermostatic heater. Ideal water temperature is 28-30° C.

Rear wall

We recommend monochrome black or white rear walls, which contrast with the colours of the Discus fish to the best advantage.

Our recommendation for tank mates

A small school of neon tetras of around 50-80 fish and a pair of butterfly cichlids will add variety to your group of discus fish. Choose generously when stocking your aquarium at the beginning.

Do not add more fish after the initial stock, they could bring in disease!

Our recommendation on stocking density for an aquarium size of 100 cm x 40 cm x 45 cm:

10-12 discus fish (8-10 cm) per 180 litres.

Fish of this size are robust and the size of the aquarium is large enough to accommodate the fish when they are fully grown. A group of discus fish should contain at least 10 fish!

The animal protection association Tierärztliche Vereinigung für Tierschutz e.V. (TVT) gives the following recommendations for keeping fish in pet stores:

A maximum of 45 fish (8cm) per 180 litres or a maximum of 12 fish (15 cm) per 180 litres.

Our water values: Total hardness (TH) 15
Carbonate hardness (CH) 8
PH value 7, conductivity 800 µS
Water temperature 28-30° C

Preparing and caring for your aquarium

Where to place your aquarium

You can place it where there is some life. Avoid putting it in the window since the sun's rays will encourage algae to form; also avoid putting it by a door (to avoid startling the fish).

Preparing the tank for new/first stocking

Strainers will need around 2 weeks to prepare the tank. Use starter bacteria cultures to run in the filters and reach the appropriate water values for your new or first stock of fish. After the first two weeks also filter the water using activated carbon in order to remove any impurities immediately.

STENDKER discus fish are very easy to keep. There are only three things you have to do to care for your discus fish:

I. Feeding

Feed 3 times daily. Only give the fish as much as they can eat within five minutes. We recommend our STENDKER discus fish food as the sole source of nourishment.

II. Check water values

Measure the pH value once a week.

III. Change the water

Once a week change 10-20 % of the water or once every 2 weeks change 30 % of the water; at the same time remove algae, clean the sides (just use a scraper) and suction the bottom with a special hose to remove dirt.



It's as simple as that!