



CARING FOR BETTAS

Known as the Siamese fighting fish, bettas come from rice paddies in Southeast Asia and normally live in small pockets of water. They do not need an air pump and can live in a bowl of water and feel right at home. Male bettas by nature blow a bubble-nest at the top of the bowl as part of their breeding ritual. If a male betta pairs with a female betta, the male will collect the eggs and place them into the bubble-nest for fertilization and incubation. Do not be alarmed when you do not see a bubble-nest forming, a male betta can live without mating perfectly fine.

Feeding Your New Pet

For smaller bettas (under 1.5" in length from the tip of their nose to the base of their tail, before the fins) we suggest using **Hikari® Micro Pellets®** and feeding 6 pellets twice a day. For bettas 1.5" to 1.75" betta, feed three pellets of **Betta Bio-Gold®** up to three times daily. Add 1 pellet per 1/4 inch of growth, never feeding more than 5 pellets at one feeding. Additional feedings can be made if they are at least three hours apart and before all lights are out in the room. During feedings, feed one pellet at a time and make sure the betta completely consumes each pellet. Overfeeding can be detrimental to the water quality, which will then negatively impact the health of your betta. Remove any uneaten food after the feeding period to avoid ammonia spikes, cloudy water, and other water issues.

REMEMBER: Do not put more than one male betta in your fish bowl or tank. Bettas are highly territorial and fight each other to the death to protect their territory. Non-aggressive tank mates like snails, shrimps or tetras are ideal.



Tank Essentials

Without using soap or cleansers, rinse your bowl or tank with water and dry with a clean paper towel. Arrange your aquarium safe substrate and tank decorations to the bottom before adding water. Be sure to cycle the tank for at least 48 hours before purchasing a betta. For optimum results, we recommend starting with at least two gallons or more. An aquarium heater is essential to maintain the temperature between 73°F (23°C) and 84°F (29°C). Do not place the tank or bowl in direct sunlight, near heaters and air conditioners or anywhere else rapid temperature changes may occur.



Weekly Water Changes

Use **Betta Ultimate®** conditioner to a container of water to ensure that the water is free of chlorine, chloramines, and heavy metals which can harm fish. Use one drop of **Betta Ultimate®** for every 16oz of tap water. The use of reverse osmosis with deionization is also acceptable. Using a siphon to remove dirt and debris, we recommend doing a 25-45% weekly water change for tanks or bowls over 2 gallons. For homes under 2 gallons with no filter, a 100% water change is necessary. Having a gentle sponge or mechanical filter will remove and recycle the ammonia produced from your betta's waste.

NOTE: Do not use regular tap water without a reliable water conditioner like as **Betta Ultimate®** as it can harm your pet.

Common Diseases & Illness

Some betta diseases can be treated easily while others can be fatal. **Aquarium Solutions® Betta Revive®** is an easy to use health aid for treating protozoan, bacterial or fungal-related diseases. During feedings, keep an eye out for signs of common illnesses like fin rot, ich or dropsy, as some can progress rapidly. If your betta lacks an interest in food, swims erratically, or has patches of missing scales, then check your water parameters with a test kit and treat accordingly.

