

EN API® pH AQUARIUM TEST STRIPS

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

Why Test pH?

In order for your fish to thrive, it is important to maintain the pH in the aquarium at a level similar to their native habitat. pH is the measure of the acidity of water. A pH reading of 7.0 is neutral, a pH above 7.0 is alkaline and a pH below 7.0 is acidic. The water in the natural habitat of some species is neutral, while that of other species is either acidic or alkaline. Most freshwater fish will thrive at a pH range of 6.8 - 7.5. The pH of natural ocean water is between 8.2 - 8.4; therefore, saltwater fish and invertebrates should be kept in that range.

Testing Tips

- The pH should be tested weekly, since natural materials in the aquarium, such as fish waste and decaying food, can cause changes in pH over time.
- This test kit measures pH from 6.0 - 9.0 in fresh and saltwater. pH below 6.0 will read 6.0 and pH above 9.0 will read 9.0. In these extreme conditions, pH adjustments to the water will not show any change until the pH is within the range of this kit.
- Be sure to use the freshwater color chart when testing freshwater and the saltwater chart when testing saltwater.

Directions for Use

- Read directions thoroughly before testing.
- Dip strip directly into aquarium.
- Swirl 2 times.
- Remove with pad face up.
- DO NOT SHAKE OFF EXCESS WATER.
- Wait 30 seconds.
- Compare to color chart on tube



For Best Results:

- Read in a well lit area.
- Keep wet fingers out of the tube.
- Close tube tightly after removing strip.
- Store in a cool, dry place.

What the Test Results Mean

Recommended pH Levels

A pH of 6.8 - 7.2 is ideal when keeping a community aquarium containing a variety of tropical fish. Goldfish should be kept in their own aquarium and prefer a pH of 7.5. Many Amazonian fish, like angelfish and neon tetras, prefer a pH of 6.5 - 6.8. Mollies and swordtails thrive at pH 7.2 - 7.5. Most African cichlids need a pH of 8.2 or higher. To raise or lower pH in a freshwater aquarium, use API® pH UP™ or pH DOWN™. API PROPER pH® 6.5, 7.0 and 7.5 can be used to automatically adjust the pH to the appropriate level.

API BUFFER MAX CICHLID™ is a carbonate buffer that can be used to bring aquarium water to the correct pH for African cichlids.

A pH of 8.2 - 8.4 is ideal for saltwater fish and invertebrates. Use API BUFFER MAX™ MARINE, a carbonate buffer, to adjust the pH in saltwater and reef aquariums.

Notes:

- API pH TEST STRIPS measures pH from 6.0 - 9.0 in increments of 0.5. For more precise low range readings in freshwater, use the API pH TEST KIT, which is a liquid reagent, and reads from 6.0 - 7.6 in increments of 0.2 and 0.4.
- For more precise high range readings in either freshwater or saltwater, use the API HIGH RANGE pH TEST KIT, which reads from 7.4 - 8.8 in increments of 0.2 and 0.4.



Aquarium Pharmaceuticals

Questions or Comments?

*In North America, call us at
1-800-847-0659.*

Or visit us at www.marsfishcare.com

MARS
fishcare

NORTH AMERICA

50 E. Hamilton St., Chalfont, PA 18914
USA

EUROPE

La Ravoire, 74370 Metz-Tessy, France
TEL: +33 (0)4 50 57 20 50

UNITED KINGDOM

PO Box 596, Southall UB1 9HU
PHONE: (0) 208 843 1766

™/® Trademarks of Mars Fishcare North America, Inc.
© 2009 Mars Fishcare North America, Inc.