

## Fighter Basics

*Siamese Fighting Fish are also known as 'Betta Splendens'*

### Checklist

- Glass aquarium (minimum 10 litres)
- Gravel substrate
- Filter
- Heater & Thermometer
- Chlorine & chloramine neutralizer with stress aid (water ager)
- General hardness (gH) & carbonate hardness (kH) generators
- pH, gH & kH test kits
- Live aquatic plants (& floating)
- Magnetic glass cleaner
- Gravel siphon
- Net
- Food

### Step 1

Rinse tank, gravel & accessories thoroughly in tap water. Ideally place your aquarium away from windows or direct sunlight to minimise excessive algae growth.

### Step 2

Add gravel and fill your aquarium with cold tap water. Add water ager & gH & kH generators as per directions. Add heater, thermometer, plants & accessories & let sit for 12 hours. Test water to ensure correct water parameters (temperature; 24°C, pH; 6.5, gH; 7°-9°, kH; 5°-6°) and adjust as required (see B.A. staff if unsure on how to do this).

### Step 3

Introduce your fighter to its new home by floating its transport bag in the aquarium for 10 mins. Open the bag and add as much new aquarium water as is already in the bag. Float for another 10 mins. Using a net, gently place your fighter into its new home (without adding water from the transport bag).

### Maintenance

Remove 10% of aquarium water every week using a gravel siphon. Add water ager & gH & kH generators to the aquarium in quantities suitable for the new water you will be adding. The addition of Melafix will help protect your fighter from bacterial infections. Fill aquarium with cold tap water. Clean aquarium glass with a magnetic glass cleaner. Replace filter sponges or rinse in removed aquarium water as required (do not rinse in tap water as this will destroy beneficial filtration bacteria). Remove & clean filter impeller & impeller cavity every 6 weeks or as required (see B.A. Filter Maintenance care sheet).

### Feeding

A varied diet will maximize the health of your fighter. Fighter granules are a good staple diet & should ideally be supplemented with live black worms & brine shrimp & frozen tubifex worms & daphnia .

### Tips

- Fighters rarely attack other fish as male fighters usually only attack other male fighters to protect territory. In larger aquariums 2 female fighters can be kept with a male & both male & female fighters can be kept in community aquariums with other peaceful fish species.
- Be careful when choosing male and female fighters as young male short finned fighters can mistakenly be sold as females.
- Regularly test your water for ammonia, nitrite & nitrate levels to ensure your biological filtration is sufficient, you are maintaining it appropriately & your aquarium is not over stocked or overfed (see B.A. Biological Basics care sheet).

*Feel free to contact the friendly staff at Boronia Aquarium or further information*

We recommend:



BORONIA AQUARIUM PTY LTD

1/262a Dorset Road  
BORONIA 3155  
Victoria

Phone: 03 9762 2044  
Fax: 03 9762 2144  
E-mail: