

## Step 6 - Adding plants and fish to your FISH<sup>POD</sup> aquarium

Your new aquarium should be allowed to stand **without** fish for 3-4 days. This will allow the temperature to stabilise, and will allow the filter to start operating efficiently. You can add plants and décor during this time. If you want to maximise plant growth we recommend replacing the Cool Blue Moon lamp with a second Bright Day White lamp.

Seek the advice of your specialist aquatic retailer when purchasing fish. Ensure your retailer knows you have a new aquarium, as it is not advisable to instantly fill the aquarium with its full complement of fish. Instead, fish should be added over a period of weeks.

### Guideline Stocking Levels

Total maximum length of fish (excluding tail) which can be safely stocked.

	Tropical fish	Coldwater fish
FISH <sup>POD</sup> 48 litre	58cm	26cm
FISH <sup>POD</sup> 64 litre	74cm	34cm
FISH <sup>POD</sup> 120 litre	144cm	65cm

e.g. 48 litre FISH<sup>POD</sup> you could stock 3 x 6cm Corydoras catfish, 4 x 5cm Guppies and 2 x 10cm Swordtails or 2 x Goldfish which will grow up to 13cm in size.

As soon as you introduce the first few fish, add Filter Start which will help establish an effective biological process in the filter for removing harmful fish waste (see Filter Start instructions for full details).

### Caring for your FISH<sup>POD</sup>

#### Daily

- Feed fish – ideally two or three times per day as much as they will eat in a couple of minutes (remove any excess food) – more fish die of overfeeding than underfeeding so take it easy and make sure only one person in the house is feeding them!
- Check fish health – look for differences in appearance or behaviour that may indicate they are unwell – seek advice from your retailer if you spot any problems.

- Check filter flow – if it has dropped significantly it needs cleaning (see PF Filter instructions).
- Clean algae off the front glass – the easiest way to do this is to use a magnetic glass cleaner.

#### Weekly

- Top up any water evaporation – ensure you treat tap water with Tapsafe.
- If you have live plants, add a plant food and trim back excess plant growth.
- Clean the condensation cover under the hood with a soft cloth.

#### Monthly

- Carry out a 25% water change ( Fish Pod 48lt = 12lt; Fish Pod 64lt = 16lt & Fish Pod 120 = 30 litre) remove water from the aquarium (do not remove fish plants or décor) and clean the substrate at the same time by using an Interpet Gravel cleaner. Ensure the replacement tap water is treated with Tapsafe and mix in a little hot water to ensure it is roughly the same temperature as the aquarium water.
- Clean the PF filter foams (see PF instructions for details) - you will need to replace the carbon filter foam every 8 weeks.

**Annually** - put a reminder in your diary to help you remember.

- Replace fluorescent lamps (see page 1).
- Replace PF filter impeller to maintain optimum performance (see PF Filter instructions).

For further information on how to set up and maintain a healthy aquarium please refer to one of Interpet's many specialist book titles:



### Guarantee

All Fish Pod aquariums are guaranteed for two years from the date of purchase providing the following conditions are met.

NEVER place polystyrene under the bottom frame of this aquarium.

Your aquarium must be sited on a surface that is flat and level and able to withstand the weight of the aquarium when filled with water, gravel etc. (Note: 1 litre of water weighs 1kg)

Wrought iron and angle iron stands, together with video, HiFi, TV cabinets, articles of furniture and self assembly furniture are NOT suitable for use with Fish Pod aquariums, doing so will automatically invalidate this guarantee. It is the responsibility of the purchaser to ensure that when using an aquarium stand it has been designed for use with a Fish Pod Aquarium i.e. The top support of the stand should be in contact with the entire bottom frame of the aquarium. All aquarium/stand locations should take into account the position of floor boards/joists etc., bearing in mind the weight to be supported. You must use the correct Fish Pod stand so as not to invalidate your guarantee.

The sealant on the aquarium must not come into contact with any chemicals (i.e. Household bleach etc) or sharp objects such as rocks and razor edged algae scrapers. Normal aquarium treatments and fish medications used for the purpose of fish keeping do not affect the aquarium silicone.

Fill the aquarium so the water level reaches the bottom edge of the canopy when the canopy is in position (About 2cms below the top edge of the glass). Do not overfill. Prior to and after filling ensure your aquarium is perfectly level.

Care should be taken to inspect your aquarium for any damage whatsoever either to the bracing system (where fitted), or to any other part of the aquarium, to avoid injury.

**IMPORTANT SAFETY ADVICE:** Never site your aquarium over electrical appliances and never lift the aquarium by the top frame (if fitted) or by any part of the bracing system. **DO not try to lift or move the aquarium when it contains water.** This guarantee covers leakages arising from either faulty materials or workmanship. Interpet Ltd cannot be responsible for breakages of glass.

This guarantee does not apply to any unauthorised modifications or misuse, improper or inadequate maintenance, or operations outside the product specifications. In case of defect within the stated guarantee period, the products should be returned, with proof of purchase, to the point of purchase.

This guarantee does not effect your statutory rights. Guarantee service includes repair or replacement of the aquarium at Interpet Ltd's discretion. Neither Interpet nor the manufacturer are liable for any direct, indirect, special, incidental or consequential damages, including loss of livestock, arising from a defect in this product.



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# FISH<sup>POD</sup>

AQUARIUMS MADE BEAUTIFULLY SIMPLE

## INSTRUCTION LEAFLET



INTERPET

# FISH<sup>POD</sup>

AQUARIUMS MADE BEAUTIFULLY SIMPLE

Thank you for purchasing this FISH<sup>POD</sup> Complete Aquarium. In doing so you have selected a product designed by Interpet, the UK's leading aquatic specialists.

We sincerely hope this aquarium enables you to fully enjoy the benefits of owning and looking after aquarium fish. In order to ensure their welfare the FISH<sup>POD</sup> aquarium is supplied with an award winning water treatment filter. If used as instructed this filter (known as a PF filter) will provide all the necessary filtration to keep the aquarium water healthy for your fish and keeping it clear of debris so you can enjoy a sparkling clean aquarium.

In addition to the filter, this aquarium is supplied with a Deltatherm heating system which supplies central heating to keep stable tropical temperatures in the aquarium.

Your aquarium also contains an Easy Start Aquarium kit in the form of two essential Interpet water care treatments. Bioactive Tapsafe makes tap water safe for use in aquariums and Filter Start establishes essential biological cycles in the filter which eliminate harmful fish waste.

For details on how to use all these essential components please refer to the extensive instruction leaflets supplied in the applicable cartons. For a basic guide as to how to set up your aquarium please read on.



## Setting up your FISH<sup>POD</sup> aquarium

Ensure the aquarium is placed on a level surface suitable for bearing the weight of a full aquarium. (The FISH<sup>POD</sup> 64 litre will weigh over 90kg when full). Ideally the aquarium should be placed out of direct sunlight. This will help prevent unwanted algae build up, and will also allow the FISH<sup>POD</sup> lighting to display your aquarium in its best light.

### Step 1 - Adding substrate to your FISH<sup>POD</sup> aquarium

Ensure you wash your aquarium substrate if necessary before adding it to the aquarium. Most gravels contain high quantities of dust which will cloud your aquariums, so washing in cold water before adding it to the aquarium will save time waiting for the aquarium to clear.

### Step 2- Installing your Deltatherm heater

Install the Deltatherm heater along the back of the aquarium. Ideally it should be placed diagonally to ensure the thermostat can work accurately. A vertical heater will transmit heat directly onto the thermostat, thus causing the heater to switch off prematurely (see aquarium diagram opposite for position). The Deltatherm heater should never be turned on out of water. When in operation cold water should never be applied directly to a hot heater as this may cause the glass to crack. When reducing the water level through water changes, ensure the heater is either turned off, or remains submerged.

### Step 3 - Installing your PF water filter

Your PF filter is set up ready for use. Simply fix the bracket into the corner or back of your aquarium, and slide the filter into place. If you wish to use the venturi air bubble feature on the filter then the top blue part of the head of the filter must be clear of the water. The venturi is not essential, so if you find the noise created becomes intrusive, the feature can either be switched off or the filter can be placed lower in the aquarium. For more information on using your PF filter, please refer to the instruction brochure supplied with the product.

Your PF Filters venturi air bubble feature



### Step 4 - Filling your FISH<sup>POD</sup> aquarium

Once you have installed the heater and filter, you can fill your aquarium with water. When using tap water it is essential that chlorine is removed, as this is harmful to fish. Your FISH<sup>POD</sup> is supplied with Interpet's Bioactive Tapsafe which removes chlorine and harmful heavy metals (e.g. Copper) from tap water. Tapsafe also adds Aloe Vera which protects delicate fish membranes and essential bacteria to boost essential aquarium cycles. Tapsafe should be used whenever you use tap water to carry out water changes or top up water evaporation. Once the aquarium is full with water you can turn the filter and heater on. Both items should remain operational at all times.

### Step 5 - Using your FISH<sup>POD</sup> aquarium lights

Your FISH<sup>POD</sup> is supplied with two 15watt florescent lamps – a Bright Day White light and a Cool Blue Moon light lamp. The lamps are individually switched so you can choose your preferred lighting effect. However if you have live plants they will need approximately 10-12 hours of Bright Day light to thrive, to achieve this you can plug the lights into a household timer for convenience. Use the Cool Blue Moon lighting for chilled out after dark viewing.

Each lamp has an "effective life" of 12 months, after this time the quality and intensity of light diminishes and may either prevent plant growth or start to encourage algae. It is therefore good practice to replace the lamp annually.

To replace the lamp, carefully insert a screwdriver or flat blade into the recess on the top of the lighting section of the hood. Use the screwdriver to gently lift the cover thus exposing the light. This should always be done with **power turned off**. The lamp unscrews and should only be replaced with genuine Interpet 15W energy saver replacement lamps.

