

FISH IN SPACE™

COSMIC DESKTOP AQUARIUM



**Uncle
Milton™**

Uncle Milton Industries
Westlake Village, CA 91362
818.707.0224 E-mail: info@unclemilton.com
www.unclemilton.com

News Flash!

A deep space probe on a mission to the far corners of the galaxy has discovered something completely unexpected: Fish in Space! Yes, you read right... Fish in Space!

These strange *astro-ichthys* (science lingo for space fish) have been viewed hovering above a distant planet that apparently has an aquatic atmosphere. A huge saucer-shaped craft has been detected hovering above the planet, discharging a mysterious green light beam onto a domed metropolis. A spaceship has also been detected speeding out of control in the direction of Earth.

They can be observed by use of a highly specialized deep space telescope, such as the one supplied with your Fish in Space Aquarium. They can also be observed by just looking into the aquarium without the aid of a telescope. Mission Control advises extreme caution in making contact with the space fish, as this alien life form is obviously of superior intelligence.

MISSION CONTROL HAS ISSUED THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS IN DEALING WITH THESE CREATURES:

How To Set Up Your Fish In Space Aquarium

These are what you received in the kit:

- 3/4 gallon Aquarium Tank with Glowing Domed Metropolis, Out-of-control Spaceship,
- Glowing Space Background Scene, and Green Planet Base
- UFO Cap with Mysterious Light Beam (batteries are included)
- Alien Rocks
- Highly Specialized Deep Space Telescope
- Directions (what you are now reading)

These are what you'll need to provide:

- Tap water
- A cup
- Aquarium water conditioner (optional)
- Small cellulose kitchen sponge
- Gallon container
- Kitchen baster
- Fish food
- Fish (obtain after you set up the aquarium)

Procedure

1. Remove the UFO Cap.
2. Thoroughly rinse the inside of the Aquarium Tank with clear tap water two times. **DO NOT USE DETERGENT OR ANY OTHER TYPE OF SOAP.**
3. Pour the Alien Rocks into a cup and soak in clear tap water for 15 minutes.
4. Pour the Alien Rocks into the Aquarium Tank.
5. Slowly fill the Aquarium Tank with clear tap water to about one inch below the top hole. **DO NOT OVERFILL.**
6. If desired, add aquarium water conditioner. Be sure to use the proper amount for a 3/4 gallon tank, as directed in the water conditioner's instructions.
7. Let the aquarium sit for at least 24 hours with the UFO Cap off. This will allow the water temperature to normalize, allow chlorine to escape, and let the water optional water conditioner remove any harmful chemicals that may be present in the water.
8. After at least 24 hours have passed, replace the UFO Cap.

Selecting Your Fish

Fish (including space fish) are cold-blooded animals. So they require the water temperature to be the same as it is in their native habitat (wherever that may be). Since your aquarium will be at room temperature, you will need to select a fish that will do well in cool water and can adapt to changes in water temperature. Additionally, you do not want to overcrowd your aquarium with too many fish. This is why it is recommended you stock your aquarium with **one goldfish** or **one betta**. Don't worry though. As long as you take care of your fish well, it won't be lonely.

Goldfish: This fish is colorful, active and fun to watch.

Betta (Also known as Siamese fighting fish): This freshwater fish of Southeast Asia is exotic and beautiful, though not as active as a goldfish.

When purchasing your fish, it is important to also purchase a suitable fish food. Ask the pet store salesperson for assistance. The salesperson will also show you how much to feed your fish each day. **NEVER OVERFEED YOUR FISH!** Too much food in the water will create waste in the aquarium which could be harmful to the fish.

Adding Your Fish To The Aquarium

1. Your fish came in a plastic bag or a container. Put the bag or container with the fish next to the aquarium and allow it to stand for 15 minutes. This will equalize the temperature and avoid shock to the fish.
2. Remove the UFO Cap.
3. Open the bag or container and pour in a little of the aquarium water. Let it sit for 5 more minutes. This will allow the fish to further acclimate to the water.
4. Now you can gently release the fish into the aquarium, making sure not to overfill the tank. Fill to about one inch below the top hole.
5. Replace the UFO Cap.

Feeding Your Fish

The amount of food to give your fish depends on the type of fish you chose. Check with the pet store salesperson or the directions on the fish food for proper amounts to feed. **REMEMBER, NEVER OVERFEED YOUR FISH!**

Do the following, once in the morning and once in the evening:

1. Remove the UFO Cap.
2. Drop a small pinch of fish food into the top hole.
3. Replace the UFO Cap.

Maintaining Your Aquarium

Once a month – Do a partial water change:

1. Let about $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon clear tap water sit in an open, clean container overnight. (Optional: Add aquarium water conditioner, according to the conditioner's directions, for $\frac{3}{4}$ gallon of water.)
2. Do not remove the fish.
3. Gently stir the Alien Rocks to release trapped waste.
4. Using a clean kitchen baster, remove about $\frac{1}{2}$ of the water in the Aquarium Tank. Be careful not to frighten the fish. (Instead of using a baster, you may do this by slowly pouring out $\frac{1}{2}$ of the water. Be careful not to pour out the fish as well.)
5. Slowly pour in the water that was sitting overnight to about one inch below the top hole. Do not overfill the aquarium.
6. Don't worry about floating dirt that may be left behind. It will eventually settle to the bottom.

Periodically – Maintain the water level: Keep a container of water near the aquarium at all times. When you notice the water level has lowered by about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, you can add the room-temperature water to about one inch below the top hole. (Optional: Add a couple of drops of aquarium water conditioner to the newly added water.)

The following should be done on a regular schedule:

Every two weeks (or as needed) — Clean the inside of the tank: Remove the UFO Cap and with a small, clean cellulose kitchen sponge that has been rinsed in clear water, gently wipe the inside walls until all or most of the algae is gone. This will require a small hand. Do not use a sponge that has been used with soap.

Keeping Algae Growth Under Control

Expect algae to grow in your aquarium. Algae is natural. It occurs in all healthy aquariums. You will see some green algae on most surfaces of your aquarium. You can control the growth of algae by following these simple rules:

- Do not place your aquarium in direct sunlight. A low-lit corner of the room is the best place to keep the aquarium. Excessive artificial light, too, speeds algae growth, so keep it away from continuous bright lighting.
- Do not overfeed your fish. Excess food and fish waste in the water provides nutrients for unwanted algae.
- Clean your aquarium on a regular schedule. Follow the above instructions for regular maintenance, and you will keep algae growth to a minimum.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q Why is my aquarium cloudy:

A A new aquarium can be cloudy for the first week or so. If the cloudiness persists, you may be overfeeding your fish.

Q Why does my fish always act hungry?

A In the wild, a fish feed on small amounts of food over many hours. In an aquarium, this is not a feasible way to feed it. Because we must feed it only twice a day, it quickly forgets its last meal and is looking for the next. As a responsible pet owner, you must realize what is best for your fish and stick to its feeding schedule.

Q What happens if I feed my fish too much food?

A Overfeeding causes excess waste in your aquarium and will upset the balance in your water. This could be harmful to your fish.

Q Why do I need to let water sit for 24 hours before using it?

A Tap water often contains small amounts of chlorine. It is not harmful to you, but it is to fish. Letting the water sit allows chlorine to escape out, and brings it to room temperature, as well. (Aquarium water conditioner further clears the water of harmful chemicals.)

Q Why does the water I add need to be at room temperature?

A Adding water that is at the same temperature as the water in the aquarium is much less stressful to the fish than adding water straight out of the tap.

Q Can I use any old sponge to clean my aquarium?

A No. The wrong type of sponge will scratch the viewing surface. Even a new sponge can have chemicals in it that may be harmful to the fish. Be sure to rinse out the sponge before and after each use. Never use a sponge that has been used with soap.