

## An introduction to Planted Nano Aquariums



Planted Nano Aquariums are one of the hottest trends in fish keeping right now. Small, super stylish and ideal for homes, offices or small apartments, they provide all the fun of keeping fish or other aquatic creatures as pets, in a beautifully planted environment.

This advice sheet is an ideal companion piece to Aquarium Industries' 'Nano Tank' and '10 Tips for Aquascaping' care sheets, and has been designed to help you to get the best from your new aquarium.

### What is a Nano Tank?

First let's define what a Nano tank is. Although there are many different definitions for this category, the most commonly accepted definition is that of a tank which is less than 50 litres in capacity.

When establishing any planted aquarium, size is everything and with a nano tank this is even more relevant. Your objective should be to make the tank look as big as possible, and you can achieve this by selecting the right plants, ornaments and fish.

### Select the Right Plants

Aquarium Industries Naturals Range Tissue Culture Plants have provided the nano aquarist or the beginner hobbyist the perfect opportunity to fully plant out a tank with high quality, disease free plants. Not only will you benefit from the lack of algae, snails and diseases, all of which can be very problematic for small tanks, but the rapid growth rate of Tissue Culture ensure that small systems can be fully aquascaped in a matter of weeks.



It is more important to understand how plants grow in nano tanks than in conventional larger aquariums, as incorrect placement or species selection will be very apparent within a short space of time.

We recommend our Tissue Culture smaller plants such as:

- Pygmy Chain Sword
- Small Leaf Lobelia
- Broad Leaf lobelia

Also when trimmed and kept to scale:

- Cryptocoryne Lucens
- Cryptocoryne Balansae
- Broad Leaf Chain Sword
- Baby Tears
- Green Pennywort
- Gold Pennywort
- Brown Wendtii

Other suitable plant species for nano tanks include:

- Glossostigma elatinoides
- Hemianthus callitricoides
- Pogo helper
- Mini Pellia
- Microsorium sp.
- Java moss
- Bolbitis heudelotii
- Anubia nana
- Riccia fluitans
- Elocharis acicularis

The plants in your nano tank will need care just as your garden does. You'll find more details on plant care in our '10 Tips for Aquascaping' Care sheet, available at [aquariumindustries.com.au](http://aquariumindustries.com.au).

## An introduction to Planted Nano Aquariums (continued)

### Select the Right Fish

When it comes to adding fish into nano tanks, less is always more. When aquascaping we want to create a picture that is pleasing to the eye, so it's quite common to see nano tanks with only 3-5 small fish being kept and the focus being more on the plants or ornaments.

Size does matter when it comes to small aquariums so selecting the right species is imperative. Ideal fish include danios, rasboras, killifish, South American dwarf cichlids, barbs, platys, small catfish, shrimps and most tetras. Our 'Nano Tank' care sheet goes into more detail about suitable species.

### Select the Right Ornaments

You may choose to add rocks, wood or ornaments to your nano tank, but scale is important. Because there is comparatively little space in a nano tank, you will need to be more mindful of scale than you would when establishing a larger aquarium.

Adding objects with interesting features and details will help take the focus from the small size.

We discuss this at length in our 'Tips for Aquascaping' care sheet and recommend that you read this before purchasing ornaments.

Follow the simple guidelines above, and you will have a beautifully landscaped mini aquarium in no time at all.



*Would you like more information about establishing your tank?*

Visit the Aquarium Industries website [aquariumindustries.com.au](http://aquariumindustries.com.au) for hundreds more Care Sheets just like this, along with a **Free School for Beginner Fish Keepers!**



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