

# Family Pet & Aquarium

7 Days

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## General information

Southern Knight Seahorses are native to the deep waters of the Bass Strait Ocean located in-between Australia and Tasmania where they live deep down in the cold parts of the ocean. These seahorses are cold water and should not reach temperatures any higher than 22°C, but they can go to extremely low temperatures at around 7°C. On hot days it is a good idea to put a frozen bottle of water in the tank (with the lid on), this will help keep the water temperature lower, therefore, keeping your Seahorses happier as they won't be getting too hot. Sea horses are best to be kept with other sea horses; they are not a suitable tank mate with other fish species.

## pH levels

Sea horses require a high (Alkaline) pH level. The best way to keep the pH high is by using shell grit or coral sand (thoroughly rinsed). This will naturally raise the pH levels in the water.

## Setting up the tank

The best way to set up your new sea horse tank is done by purchasing some noodles from our filter system which already have a beneficial bacteria colony living on them so there is no need to cycle your new tank. This is going to cause less stress and reduce the risk of your new sea horse dying. Alternatively, you can use a product called stability to cycle the tank. Stability is a live bacteria in a bottle which halves the cycle process to around 4 weeks. Check out our Tank Cycle fact sheet for more information.

## Salt water

We now sell treated ocean water for 28 cents per litre, all you need is a transporting container. We also sell the salts to mix in de-chlorinated water to be added to your

tank. If mixing your own salts you are best to purchase a hydrometer to ensure the salts are at the correct dose. You will need to add 33 grams of salt per litre, which is around 1 dessert spoon per litre. We also sell RO water at the same price as the treated ocean water. The RO water is treated natural water which should be used to top up your tank when water evaporates. Salt dose not evaporate from the water so it's important to use RO water when topping up or ensure water used for top up's has been de-chlorinated (water ager added).

### **Diet**

Our sea horses are on a diet of frozen brine shrimp. They require around one quarter of a block per sea horse twice a day (morning and night).

### **Maintenance**

Once the tank is cycled, weekly water changes are required on small tanks using a siphon on the substrate (gravel, shell grit, coral sand etc) to ensure you are removing any debris that may be stuck in there.

