

Instructions for use:

Remove only as many test sticks from the container as necessary, and tightly close the container immediately. Do not touch the test fields with your fingers. Dip test stick with **all test fields** into the water for about 1 sec (do not hold under flowing water), shake of excess liquid and after 60 sec compare with the colour scale.

Evaluation of the water quality:

The **total hardness** of the water is caused by its content of calcium and magnesium salts. The favourable value for most ornamental fish is between 5 °d and 10 °d (conversion factors: 1 °d = 1.8 °f = 1.25 °e = 17.8 mg/l CaCO₃).

The **carbonate hardness** is a part of the total hardness and is caused by that portion of alkaline earth metals which are equivalent to the carbonate and hydrogen carbonate ions present in the water. The carbonate hardness is thus a measure for the buffer properties of the water. Water with a low carbonate hardness is not sufficiently buffered, therefore the pH value can fluctuate and endanger the fish. Ideal water should have a carbonate hardness between 2 °d and 4 °d (conversion factors: 1 °d = 1.8 °f = 1.25 °e = 17.8 mg/l CaCO₃).

The **pH value** indicates whether the water is acidic, alkaline or neutral. Water with a pH value of 7 is called neutral. Towards lower pH values the water becomes increasingly acidic, towards higher pH values it becomes more alkaline. In fresh water aquariums the ideal pH value should be between 6.4 and 6.9.

If the values you measure for total hardness, carbonate hardness and pH value should deviate from the ranges indicated above, please contact your dealer for advice.

Storage:

Protect test strips from sunlight and moisture. Store container in a cool and dry place, not above 30 °C.