AQUARIUM AESTHETICS: THE SECRET TO A BEAUTIFUL & HEALTHY TANK!

SUBSTRATE AND DECOR SELECTION GUIDE

4 TYPES OF AQUARIUM SUBSTRATES

4. Planted Tank Substrate (For Aquarium Plants)

✓ Rich in nutrients (supports plant root growth).
✓ Comes in different brands (ADA Amazonia, Fluval Stratum).
✓ Best for planted aquariums & shrimp tanks.
✓ Example: Aqua soil, nutrient-rich substrates

3. Pebbles (For Decoration & Minimalistic Tanks)

✓ Large, smooth stones that give a natural look.
✓ Not ideal for planted tanks (roots can't anchor well).
✓ Used mostly for goldfish, koi, and monster fish tanks.

2. Sand (Best for Bottom Dwellers & Soft-Shell Fish)

✓ Looks natural, ideal for burrowing fish (loaches, catfish).
✓ Prevents food & waste from sinking deep.
✓ Needs regular stirring to avoid gas pockets.
✓ Example: Play sand, pool filter sand, black sand.

1. Gravel (Best for Most Tanks & Beginners)

✓ Available in different sizes & colors.
✓ Easy to clean, doesn't compact much.
✓ Suitable for goldfish, cichlids, and community fish.
✓ Example: River gravel, colored aquarium gravel

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HOW MUCH SUBSTRATE DO YOU NEED?

★ GENERAL RULE OF THUMB ★

✓ Regular tanks – 1 inch (2.5 cm) layer.
✓ Planted tanks – 2–3 inches (5–8 cm) layer.

1-2 FEET TANK (10-50L)

3–5 kg

3 FEET TANK (100L+)

10–15 kg

4 FEET TANK (200L+)

15–20 kg

5 FEET TANK (250L+)

20–30 kg

★ SUBSTRATE CALCULATOR (APPROXIMATE GUIDE) ★

TIP: ALWAYS RINSE GRAVEL OR SAND OR PEBBLE BEFORE ADDING TO REMOVE DUST & FINE PARTICLES!

Aquarium Decor – What to Use & What to Avoid

Safe & Recommended Aquarium Decorations

✔ *Natural Driftwood – Provides hiding spots, helps lower pH (good for soft-water fish).*

✔ *Rocks & Stones – Safe ones like lava rock, slate, dragon stone (avoid sharp edges).*

✔ *Aquarium-safe Ornaments – Artificial caves, ceramic decorations (made for fish tanks).*

✔ *Live Plants – Enhance oxygen levels, absorb nitrates, provide shelter.*

✔ *Artificial Plants – Easy to maintain but not as beneficial as live plants.*

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