

A WaterZoo guide to...

# Positioning your aquarium

**Choosing the correct position for an aquarium is an important first step. If incorrectly positioned it may spoil your enjoyment, contribute to algae problems, or even damage your fish's health. Following the guidelines below will help you avoid potential problems.**

- It is vital you place your aquarium on flat level surface where is cannot be knocked easily. If the aquarium cracks it is not covered by the guarantee. Even if your aquarium is placed on a stand designed specifically for aquariums it should checked with a spirit level before the aquarium positioned and filled.
- Aquariums without a floating base\* should have a layer of polystyrene or aquarium base mat placed below them to act as a cushion. Although this should not be used a substitute for a flat level surface as it will only compensate minor deviations.
- Cabinets supporting aquariums should be placed across floor joists to evenly distribute the weight. If in any doubt about the strength of your floor to support an aquarium consult a structural engineer.
- If you do not purchase a stand with your aquarium ensure the surface you place it on can support the weight. Each litre of water weighs 1kg (2.2lb). For example a 36X18X12 aquarium filled with water & gravel will weigh over 150kg.
- Do not place your aquarium where it will receive direct sunlight, e.g. near a window, or in a conservatory, this will cause problems with fluctuating temperature & excessive algae growth.
- Place away from sources of heat (radiators), noise (speakers or TV). These factors adversely affect the fish's environment.
- Do not place an aquarium close to electronic equipment e.g. computers, which could easily be damaged by splashes of water when maintenance is being carried out.
- Leave enough space above the aquarium for easy access, we would suggest at least 30cm. Leave at least 5cm behind for any pipes & electric cables.
- Power points should be close by and easily accessible. Remember to incorporate a drip loop to stop the possibility of water running down the electric cable and into your power socket.

*\*A floating base is where the base of the aquarium is slightly higher than the sides, so the aquarium is supported only around the edge, e.g. Juwel. This type of aquarium should not be stood on any kind of cushioning material, although it must still be sited on a flat level surface of sufficient strength.*

The WaterZoo 439 Lincoln Road, Millfield, Peterborough PE1 2PE Tel. (01733) 312142  
www.waterzoo.co.uk Email [aquatics@waterzoo.co.uk](mailto:aquatics@waterzoo.co.uk)