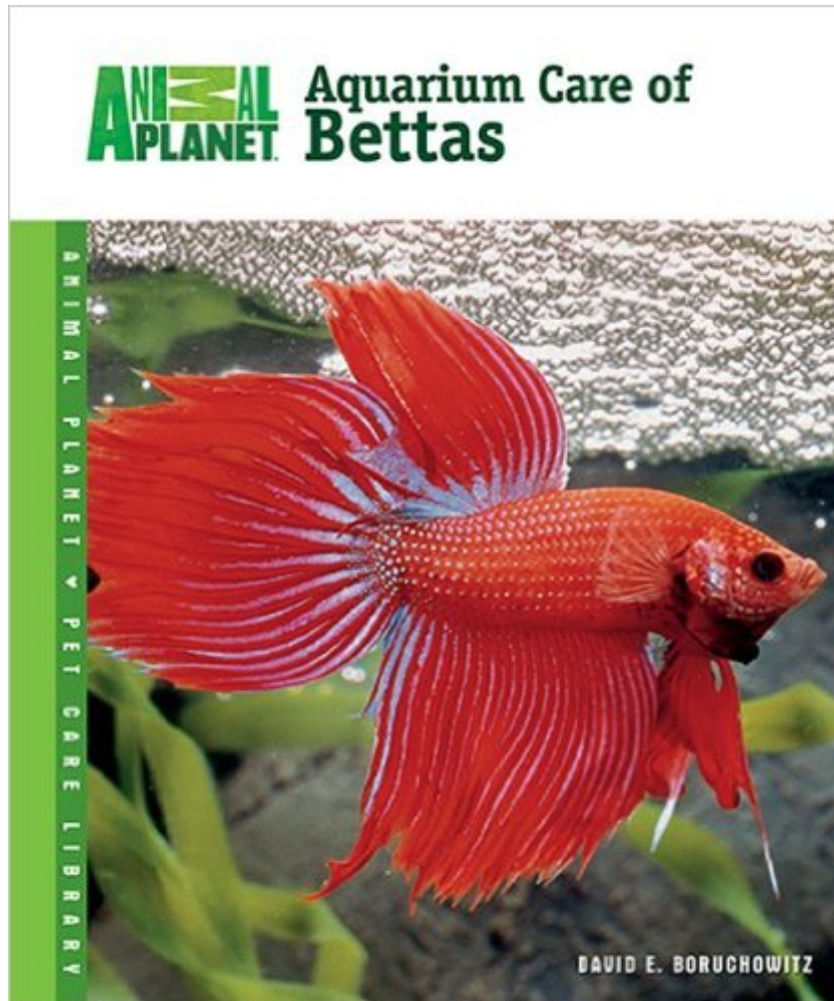


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Aquarium Care Of Bettas (Animal Planet® Pet Care Library)



Synopsis

Bettas are a unique tropical fish with attractive features. This handy book makes it easy and fun to find favorites from the many different types of bettas, and is a great tool to help make the best care choices for these colorful fish. T.F.H. has teamed up with Animal Planet, the only television network devoted to the unique bonds between humans and animals, to present an exciting new series of family-friendly, comprehensive guides to superior pet care. Each book features newly written text from animal experts on a variety of topics, including feeding, housing, grooming, training, health care, and fun activities. Useful tip boxes in each chapter show every member of the household how to make the most out of owning a pet.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars See all reviews (33 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

An indispensable resource for recent and veteran betta fanciers, this text does not burden the reader with esoteric details concerning betta genetics and pigmentation, nor is excessive attention paid to the diversity of wild bettas which amateur hobbyists will never see. (Much of this detail is covered in *The Betta Handbook* by Goldstein.) *Aquarium Care of Bettas* discusses how to give your betta a good life, simple things like providing him more room to move and breathe in or adding salt to the water or changing the water often, all of which can make a huge difference in quality of life. The text is lively and accessible, with plenty of full-color pictures demonstrating types of Betta splendens. Consultation of this book can be the beginning of an inquiry into whether to provide heat and filtration to a betta tank; research online reveals that so many small heaters can cook the fish. I have consulted my copy several times already and will continue to do so.

I do not agree with some of the authors opinions on betta care. I would not recommend using aquarium salt with your betta. As with most freshwater fish, they thrive in f-r-e-s-h water, and salt should not be used unless you absolutely must to treat disease/illness, or you risk serious harm to the fish. Salt will also destroy live plants, which I highly recommend for your betta as I've found most of mine over the years really enjoy spending time in the plants. It should also be noted that you can easily end up with dangerous levels of salt if you use it without consulting a hydrometer or refractometer, especially since the salt does not evaporate with time like the water does. I recommend thorough research from multiple sources before using salt in your freshwater aquariums. Betta splendens shouldn't be kept in small bowls of water, same as any other fish. They are just no different than any other fish their size when it comes to their water volume requirements. Any fish this size is going to create way too much waste, unless they are being starved, to keep ammonia and nitrite levels at zero if kept in 1 gal or smaller unfiltered container. In my experience this is the case even with live plants (which reduces ammonia). In a lot of these little "betta bowls" and the like that I see for sale, I doubt even a daily 50% water change would save the fish from the constant burn of ammonia. If you have a betta bowl and doubt this, buy a test kit and see where your ammonia and nitrite levels are at. They should be at 0ppm at pretty much all times. If you aren't familiar with the nitrogen cycle and/or do not know how to cycle your tank to make it safe for fish before adding your fish, do some online searches for info on the subject. "New tank syndrome" and bettas constantly dying in their small containers isn't an unexplainable mystery...they are being killed by their own waste(ammonia and nitrites), and it's completely preventable. Betta splendens in the wild (not that these "fancy" store bought versions closely resemble their wild counterparts, but still) live in rice paddies that are often the size of a football field and, for most of the year contain thousands of gallons of water. Not to mention that their native waters are warm, they are absolutely a tropical fish, in fact they seem to do best in temps higher than many tropicals require, and very small water volumes cannot safely be heated. Why the pet trade decided they could be marketed as fish that require smaller containers than others is beyond me.

I bought this book because I'd gotten a betta at Petco, and they had no information on how to care for bettas. While this book had a lot of helpful information on bettas in general, I had expected more specific information that would help me set up my aquarium correctly and how to cure various issues in my aquarium. This had generalities, but nothing specific that I could really apply with confidence.

I bought this book and have read it cover to cover. I thought I knew how to maintain a tank and feeding for a betta until I read this book. It uncovers all the myths that surround betta care even in the pet shops!!!Excellent for anyone thinking of buying a Betta! They need more than just a bowl to survive. Bettas also need a mini heater, mini filter, and at least a 1 gallon tank per Betta!!!

As far as fish books go, this is good one on these lovely fish. Though, I enjoyed reading this book, I personally didn't learn anything new about Bettas. However, if you're new to this fish species, I do recommend you read it and heed it's advice. Bettas are great fish and deserve more than a cup or bowl to live a thriving life. This book is proof. It was nice to see that in print. I've had three male Bettas to date and never had any regrets over owning one. I've had one in each of my community tanks. They're great community fish as long as you keep fin nippers away and have the same size fish with them. Also, keep just one male per tank. I personally advise adding a Betta last to your tank in a community fish tank. Otherwise there should be no problems. Bettas have a personality all their own.

Love this book..its up to date on information,Excellent pictures,and care information..I only have Bettas as pets and this book stresses over and over to not keep a Betta in a small container..if you do youl have to change the water daily..im now waiting for my 5gallon tank to come.this is a great book..

I bought this book for my Mom, she has a new male Betta. We learned so much and the pictures are colorful. We were also happy it arrived so quickly.....thank you!!!!

I was not impressed with this book. I thought because it was by Animal Planet it would be very informative. The book was made up of very generalized information, not something I needed to pay \$9 for.We have a Betta at work who was abandoned by another occupant in the building. This poor fish has been through a lot and I was hoping for some in-depth information on how to make things better for him. It really just said keep the water warm, don't over feed, keep the water clean, stuff like that. I had already read all that information on the internet--of which I didn't have to pay for.I'm very disappointed and if I could get my money back, I would in a heartbeat!

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