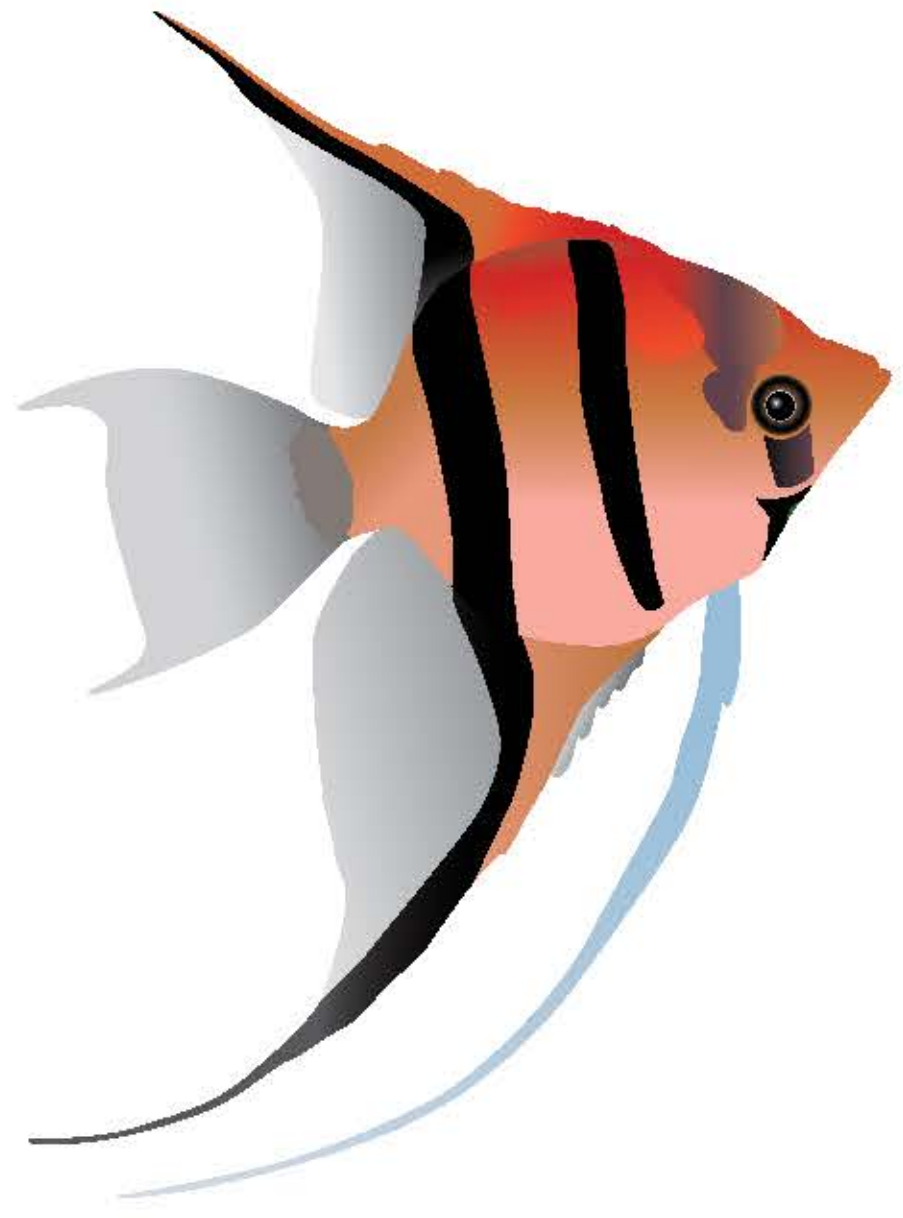


Responsibilities and Costs of Owning an Aquarium

"If you tame me, then we shall need each other. To me, you shall be unique in all the world. To you, I shall be unique in all the world... You become responsible, forever, for what you have tamed."
 - Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, author of "The Little Prince"



Would you like your own aquarium?

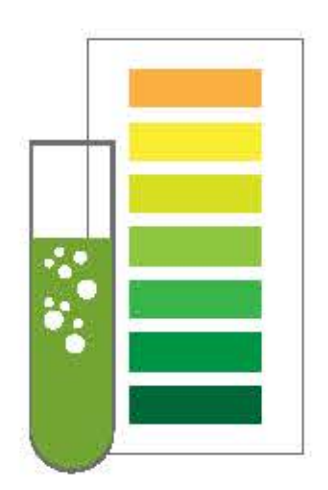
If so, ask yourself these questions. Are you prepared to:

- Take care of your aquatic pets for the rest of their lives?
- Learn about their specific needs?
- Ensure that they live in a healthy and safe environment?
- Provide them with high-quality food?
- Treat them in an appropriate and humane manner if they become sick?

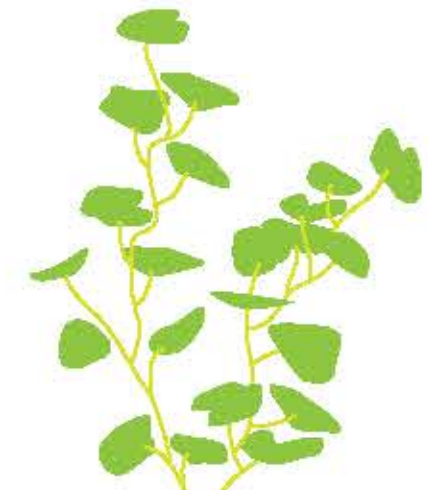
If you answered yes to ALL of these questions, you're ready to own an aquarium.

How much does a basic freshwater aquarium cost?

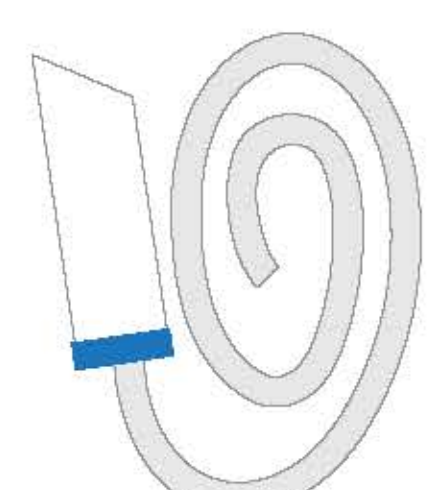
A 12-gallon tank (including filter and lights), like the one pictured to the right, costs \$190. You'll also need:



\$45
Water Quality Testing Equipment



\$16
Plants



\$7
Gravel Siphon



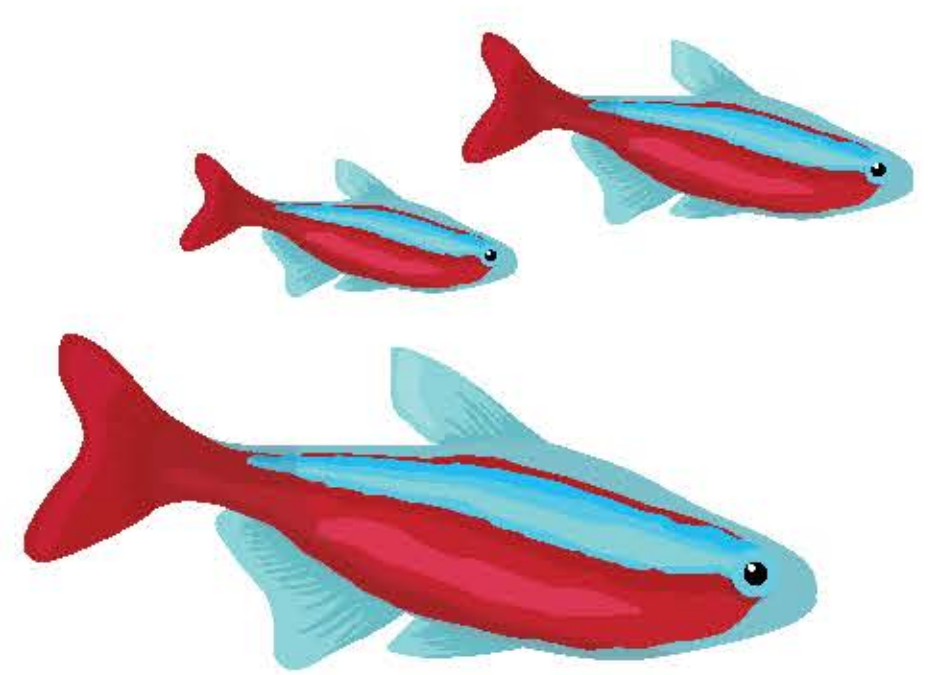
\$7
Wood



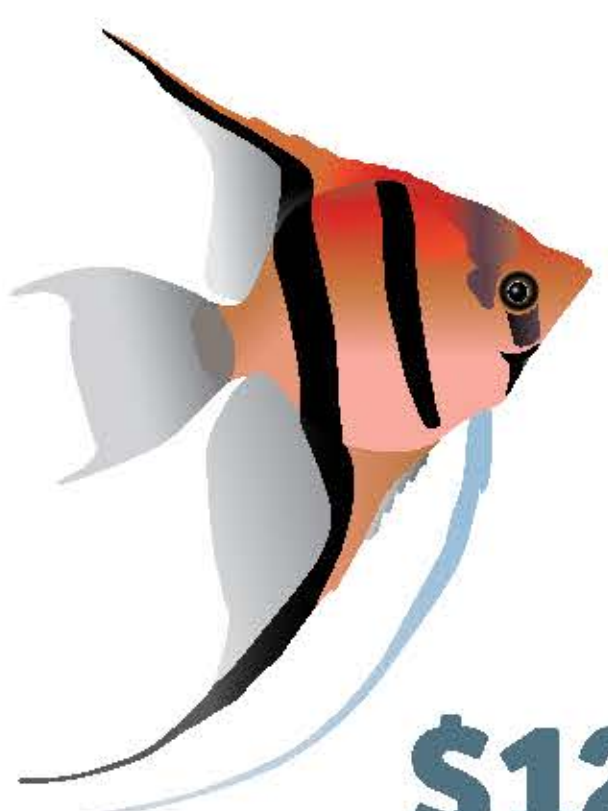
\$4
Initial Food



\$4
Algae Magnet



\$10
10 Cardinal Tetras



\$12
2 Freshwater Angelfish

➔ Plus, you'll need to pay for these average annual maintenance costs:

\$25 Replacement Reagents for Water Quality Test Kit

\$20 Food

\$15 Water Conditioners

\$6 Carbon Filter Replacement

\$3 Pre-filter Sponge

\$3 Filter Renewal Kit

Setup and one year of operation **Grand Total: \$402**

Oregon Sea Grant's aquatic animal health program has many resources to help you learn how to properly care for aquatic pets. [Learn more at blogs.oregonstate.edu/wetvet](https://blogs.oregonstate.edu/wetvet)

Special thanks to the following for supporting this exhibit:

