



SEA DWELLERS AND FRIENDS
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South American Cichlid TECH Sheet

I have an oscar. What will go with it?

An oscar is member of the South American cichlid family. These fish mostly come from The Amazon River in South America. There are many members of this family of cichlids. Some, like the blue ram, do not grow very large. Others, like the oscar, can grow very large. Never put anything in that will fit in a fish's mouth into the aquarium with it. They require a large aquarium with a few large, hard to move decorations. The plants should have stone bases. Large cichlids like to dig holes and re-arrange the tanks decorations. Heaters need to be secured with suction cups. These fish are territorial. They will claim ownership to a particular area and defend it from intruders. It is wise to re-arrange the tanks decorations when you add new fish to it. This makes it easier for the new fish to blend in with the old ones.

Here are some suggestions of fish that you can try in an aquarium together.

Oscar	Jack Dempsey	Texas Cichlid
Firemouth	Convict	Green Severumn
Gold Severumn	Festivum	Geophagus Juripari
Pike Cichlids	Green Terror	Blue Acara
Red Terror	Red Devil	Managuense
Salvini	Brasiliensis	Red Parrot Fish
Large plecostomus	Tinfoil Barbs	Large Silver Dollars
Pacu	Urau	Large Pimelodella Cats

These fish will not always get along together. Fish size, tank size, amount of decorations, which fish were introduced to the aquarium first, and the overall number of fish affect compatibility. It is your responsibility to observe the behavior of the fishes in your aquarium. If its tank mates are killing a fish, it would only make sense to remove it before they kill it.



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African Cichlid FAQ Sheet

I have an African Cichlid. What can I put in with it?

There are many different types of cichlids. The most common are South American cichlids and African cichlids. **It is a good idea to keep African cichlids by themselves, with the exception of some bottom feeders.** African cichlids originate from the Rift Lakes in Africa. These are densely populated lakes with a lot of rocks, which the fish use for shelter. Because the lakes have such a high amount of fish living in them, the fish have evolved to become highly territorial. The fish eat algae that they scrape off of the rocks with the teeth located on the outside of their mouths. These teeth also serve as a very effective weapon in chasing off intruders that enter the territory that they have claimed. These fish range from the tiny shell dwellers to the giant frontosa. They require an aquarium with lots of rocks and plants to use for shelter. These fish like to dig so it is best not to use an under gravel filter. Add groups of fish to the aquarium, not single specimens. It helps to re-arrange the rocks to allow the new fish to blend in with the old ones. Keep the fish similar in size and feed the accordingly. Foods containing spirulina algae are great for African Cichlids.

Here some good bottom feeders:

Skunk Botia	Clown Loach	Plecostomus
Synodontis Cats	Redtail Botia	Lochata Loach