

Why Test Ammonia?

Ammonia is one of the most important parameters to monitor in aquariums as it is always being produced and any measurable amount can be toxic to aquatic life if it is not addressed immediately. Ammonia is commonly elevated in new tanks while establishing the beneficial biological filter but can also be present in established aquariums from lack of maintenance, overstocking or when the biological filter has been interrupted by medication, power loss, etc. Sources of ammonia include, in addition to fish respiration, fish waste and uneaten food, decaying plant matter, dead animals, and tap water that contains chloramine (which is a combination of chlorine and ammonia). Ammonia can reach lethal levels very rapidly, and should be tested immediately in the case of fish illness or death. Monitor ammonia levels closely when using any medications or treatments.

 **The ammonia level in any aquarium should ideally always be zero.**

Symptoms for acute and chronic ammonia poisoning include:

- Heavy breathing and gasping at surface
- Clamped fins
- Discoloration
- Loss of appetite
- Increased occurrence of disease
- Death



WARNING

AMMONIA TEST SOLUTION #1

contains sodium salicylate. May cause sensitization by skin contact. Keep out of reach of children. Avoid contact from skin. Wear suitable gloves. If swallowed, seek medical advice immediately and show this container or label.

DANGER

AMMONIA TEST SOLUTION #2

Contains sodium hydroxide and sodium hypochlorite - Causes severe burns - Contact with acids liberates toxic gas - Toxic by inhalation, in contact with skin and if swallowed - Danger of cumulative effects. Keep locked up and out of reach of children. Keep away from food, drink and animal feeding stalls. In case of contact with eyes, rinse immediately with plenty of water and seek medical advice. If contact lens is present, remove after the first 5 minutes, then continue rinsing. After contact with skin, wash immediately with plenty of water - Remove contaminated clothing - Wear suitable gloves and eye/face protection - In case of accident, or if you feel unwell, seek medical advice immediately (show label where possible). Do not mix with acidic material.

FRITZ
AQUATICS

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AMMONIA $\text{NH}_3/\text{NH}_4^+$ TEST KIT

INSTRUCTIONS

FOR FRESH & SALTWATER AQUARIUMS

Directions for Testing Ammonia Levels

NOTE: Read instructions thoroughly before testing.

⚠ DO NOT allow Test Solutions to get into aquarium.

To remove childproof safety cap, push down while turning.

- 01** Fill a clean test tube with **5 ml** of water to be tested (to the line on the tube).
- 02** **Add 8 drops** from **Ammonia Test Solution Bottle #1**, holding dropper bottle upside down in a completely vertical position to ensure uniformity of drops added to the water sample.
- 03** **Add 8 drops** from **Ammonia Test Solution Bottle #2**, holding dropper bottle upside down in a completely vertical position to ensure uniformity of drops to the water sample.
- 04** **Cap the test tube** and **shake for 5 seconds**.
- 05** Wait **five minutes** for the color to develop.
- 06** Read the test results by matching the color of the solution against those on the appropriate Ammonia Test Color Chart. Be aware Freshwater and Saltwater results vary slightly.

For best results the tube should be viewed against the white area beside the color chart in a well-lit area with a light source behind you. The closest match indicates the Ammonia in the water sample. Rinse the test tube with clean water after each use.

SALTWATER
CHART



0 ppm



0.25 ppm



0.5 ppm



1.0 ppm



2.0 ppm



4.0 ppm



8.0 ppm

FRESHWATER
CHART



0 ppm



0.25 ppm



0.5 ppm



1.0 ppm



2.0 ppm



4.0 ppm



8.0 ppm

Corrective Actions



Any detectable ammonia should be dealt with immediately. Reduce feeding, perform a water change and add a chemical ammonia remover like Fritz A.C.C.R. or Fritz Complete

0.5 - 1 ppm - Temporarily stop feeding, perform a partial water change (approx. 25%). Detoxify ammonia with Fritz A.C.C.R. or Fritz Complete Water Conditioner. Add FritzZyme Nitrifying Bacteria.

1 - 2 ppm - Perform a significant water change (approx. 50%) and follow above steps.

2+ ppm - Perform a significant water change (75% or more) and follow above steps. Consult an expert to determine the cause of the imbalance if the problem persists.