

vita

www.aquaticvita.com

User Guide

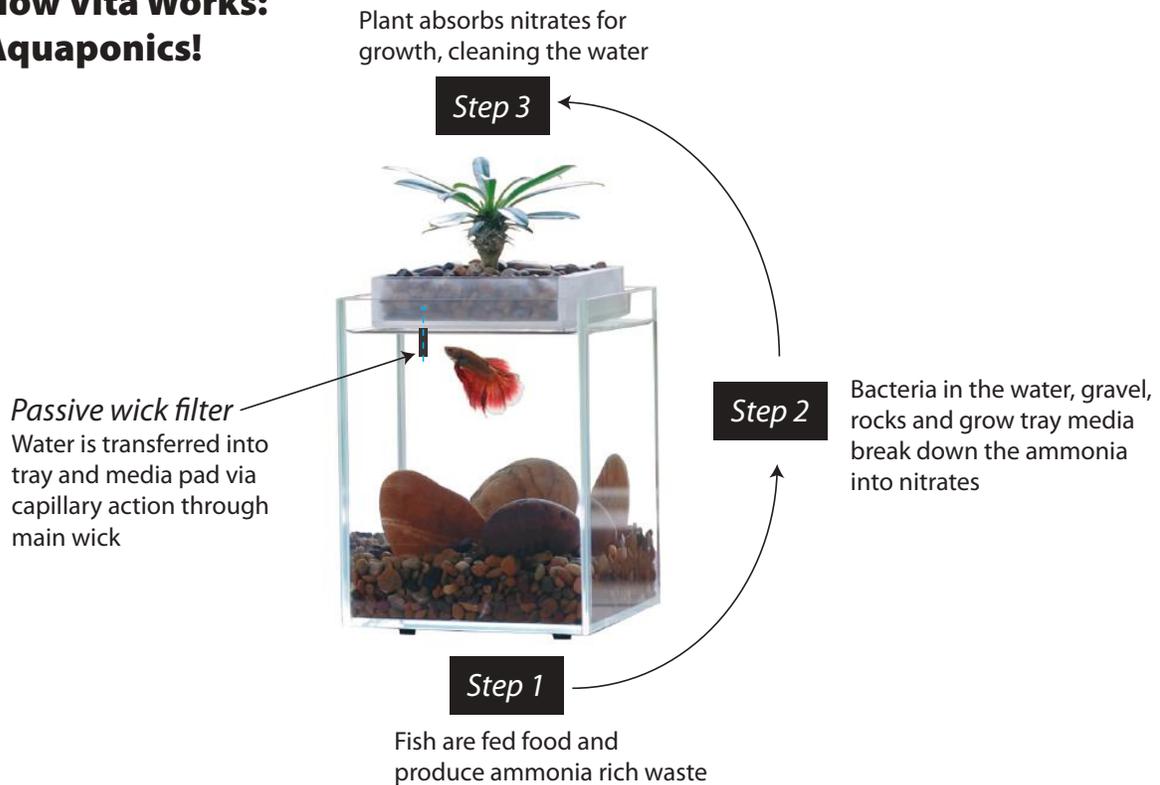
**KICK
STARTER**





Thank you for choosing to bring Vita into your life! Vita combines simple, beautiful design and a natural ecosystem to create modern living decor. Utilizing aquaponics, the plant naturally filters the water, creating a clean habitat for the Betta fish. Every element works together for easy maintenance.

How Vita Works: Aquaponics!



This User Manual provides step-by-step instructions to help you set up your Vita and care for your Betta fish and plant. Additional information, troubleshooting tips and videos can be found on our website at www.aquaticvita.com. Enjoy your Betta fish and watch your plant grow!

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Important Safety Instructions

WARNING - This is not a page of legalese. It contains important safety information that you should read and save for future reference.

READ AND FOLLOW ALL SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

Failure to do so may result in loss of fish and plant life and/or damage to this appliance.

****If using any electrical product, a Drip Loop Must be used (see pg. 10)****

DANGER - To avoid possible electric shock, special care should be taken since water is employed in the use of aquarium, aquaponic and hydroponic equipment. Please review the following guidelines:

- Never attempt repairs yourself; return the appliance to an authorized service facility for service or discard the appliance.
- Carefully examine the aquarium and components for any leaks. Do not attempt repairs yourself. Discard the aquarium tank and contact us directly.
- Carefully examine any aquarium electrical equipment including the light and heater **BEFORE** you plug it into a GFCI wall outlet. Be sure there is no water on any of the parts.
- Never plug in a wet cord. If a plugged in unit or socket gets wet, **DON'T** touch it. Instead, promptly disconnect the fuse or circuit breaker that supplies power to the appliance. Then you may unplug the fixture and examine it for water.
- Never operate a light or appliance that is damaged or malfunctioning, discontinue use immediately and return the appliance to an authorized service center.
- Close supervision is necessary when any appliance is used by or near children or pets.
- Always unplug the light when not in use, before putting on or taking off parts, before any plant maintenance or before cleaning. Never pull the cord to unplug from the GFCI (Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter.)
- Do not use the light for anything other than its intended use. The use of attachments not recommended or sold by the fixture manufacturer may cause an unsafe condition and void your warranty.
- Do not install the fixture where it will be exposed to weather or to temperatures below 0° Celsius or 32° Fahrenheit.
- Do not operate in temperatures above 50° Celsius or 122° Fahrenheit.
- Ensure the light is securely installed before supplying power to the unit.
- Read and observe all important notices on labels or stickers of appliances. **DO NOT REMOVE** any warning labels.
- Do not directly look into the LED lights.
- Use caution when maintaining plants and avoid any thorns. Wash hands when performing any maintenance of plants or fish.
- **DO NOT** consume any plants grown with this system. If growing edible plants, ensure all chemicals and/or foods are FDA Approved for human consumption.
- If an extension cord is necessary, care should be taken to arrange the cord so that it will not be a tripping hazard.

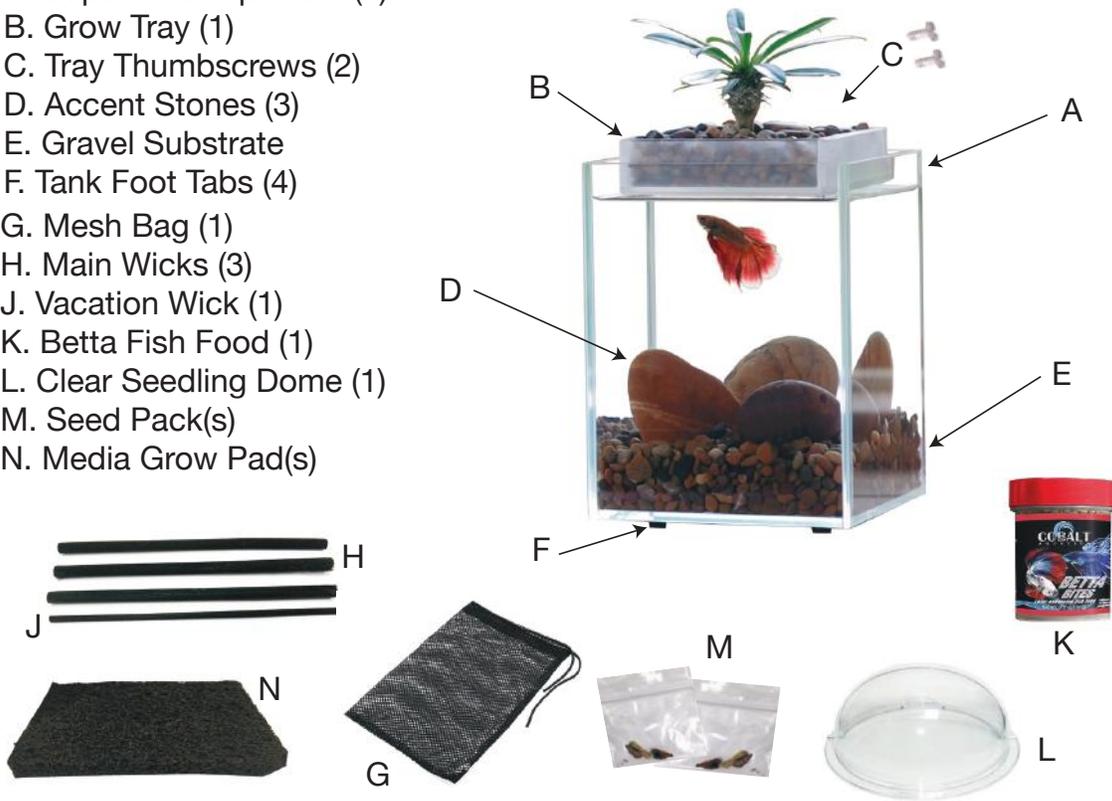
SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS

List of Parts



Vita includes the following accessories:

- A. SuperBrite Aquarium (1)
- B. Grow Tray (1)
- C. Tray Thumbscrews (2)
- D. Accent Stones (3)
- E. Gravel Substrate
- F. Tank Foot Tabs (4)
- G. Mesh Bag (1)
- H. Main Wicks (3)
- J. Vacation Wick (1)
- K. Betta Fish Food (1)
- L. Clear Seedling Dome (1)
- M. Seed Pack(s)
- N. Media Grow Pad(s)



Optional Accessories



Submersible
Heater



Magnet
Cleaner



Live Betta
Fish



Joe Pachypodium
Live Plant



LED Lighting w/Wireless
Remote & Transformer

Instructional videos are available online at aquaticvita.com

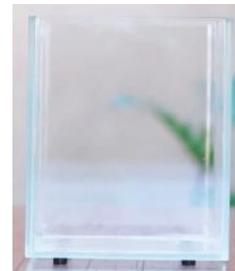
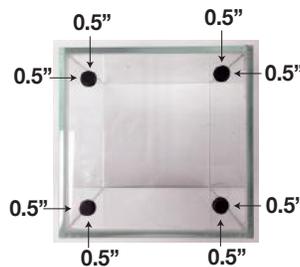
Step 1 - Vita Preparation

1. Carefully remove all components from the packaging and ensure nothing is missing or damaged. (Refer to List of Parts pg.3) If any components are broken or missing, please contact customer service by visiting www.aquaticvita.com.

2. Rinse and clean the aquarium and grow tray using freshwater and/or a damp cloth.

3. **DO NOT USE SOAP OR DETERGENTS** to clean any component of the Vita as it is toxic to fish and plants.

4. Attach the four foot tabs to the bottom of the tank by removing the adhesive tape from the bottom of each foot and placing a foot 0.5" inside at each corner as shown.



5. **WARNING:** Choose a solid, level surface that cannot be damaged by water and can support a weight of 15 lbs. When the Vita is fully assembled and filled with water, it can have a weight close to 12 lbs. total.

6. Place the Vita in a location with a 65°-75° F (16°- 23°C) environment (optimal). Keep away from: direct sources of heat (e.g. stove, furnace vents), cold air (e.g. window drafts, AC vents). Keep out of reach of children and pets.

Note: We do not recommend placing the Vita close to a window. Excess light can cause unwanted algae growth in the aquarium and possibly overheat the water. Direct sunlight can also burn plant leaves.

7. If your Vita includes an LED light or heater, please ensure the tank is located near a standard electrical outlet per local regulations.

Step 2 - Vita Assembly

1. Clean the aquarium substrate by keeping it inside the mesh bag or pouring into a container and rinsing it under fresh water (or tap water.)

2. Gently place 75% of the gravel into the bottom of the aquarium, saving the remainder for use in the grow tray.



Step 2 - Continued

3. Carefully place the rinsed décor stones in position as desired.

BEFORE ADDING WATER:

Chlorine and chloramines in standard tap water can harm betta fish and plants. If using tap water, be sure to use a dechlorinator.



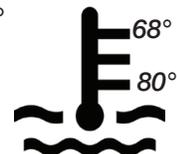
4. Prepare the water for your Vita having 1 gallon of dechlorinated water prepared at room temperature. If using tap water, please remember to add dechlorinator as per the manufacturer instructions. We recommend always having 1 gallon of dechlorinated water prepared for water changes or for emergencies (like over feeding).

5. Fill the Vita aquarium 3/4 of the way full using room temperature dechlorinated water. This should allow enough room to float your Betta Fish in its bag or cup to adjust to the water temperature.

6. Allow the water to set in your tank for 24 hours before adding any Betta Fish. Check for any leaks before adding your Betta Fish.

BEFORE ADDING YOUR BETTA FISH:

It is important to keep the water temperature of your Vita between 68° and 80°F for your Betta Fish and avoid any rapid temperature fluctuations. If the room temperature goes below 68° F, your tank will need a heater (refer to the heater manufacturer instructions).



Step 3 - Acclimating and Adding Your Betta Fish

1. Float the bag or cup with your Betta Fish for 15-20 minutes to allow the temperature to adjust, then carefully release the fish into the tank. It is not recommended to pour much water from the fish bag or cup into the tank, just the fish.

2. Top off the rest of the aquarium with freshwater until there is a 1.5" gap at the top of the tank. This is the ideal water level and it's best to try and maintain the water at this level.



3. Observe your Betta Fish for any signs of stress. You can begin feeding your Betta Fish in 24-36 hours.

Step 1 - Main Wick Installation

The Vita includes two different wicks: a Main Wick and a thin Vacation Wick.

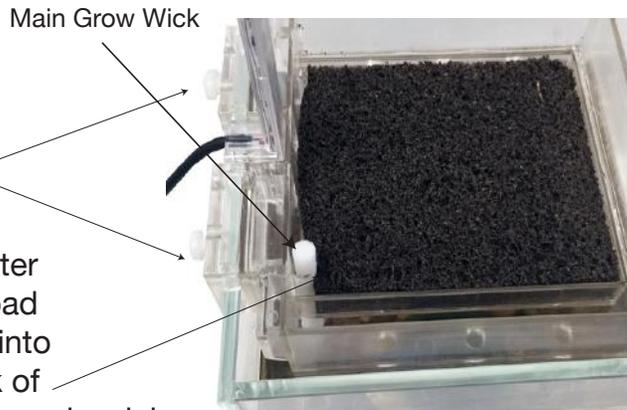
1. Cut each of the Main Wicks in 1/2 (cut to a 3" length.) Insert a Main Wick into the back left wick hole in the tray until it is flat with top of wick holder top.

Step 2 - Attaching the Grow Tray and Media Pad

1. Slide Grow Tray onto top of aquarium, allowing wick to go into the aquarium water.

2. Tighten to tank using two thumbscrews on back of tray.

3. Rinse media pad with freshwater and squeeze clean. Set media pad into grow tray section laying flat into center location of tray. The back of pad should be in contact with the main wick.



NOTE: If your Vita includes a live Pachypodium, carefully set the moist media pad into the grow tray section, being careful not to damage the plant, avoiding any thorns.

Step 3 - Planting Guidelines

**** Visit www.aquaticvita.com for instructions on planting seeds ****

Before planting your seeds, we **HIGHLY** recommend visiting our website and learning how to plant each different type of seed. To successfully sprout succulent seeds, they must be planted a certain way.

As a general guideline:

- Most seeds, especially succulents, prefer warmer environments above 70°F to successfully sprout.
- Each Vita includes a clear grow dome. When planting succulent seeds or plants using only a few seeds (like Basil or herbs), place clear seedling grow dome over planted seeds as it will help maintain a moist environment.
- We do not recommend covering the grow media with gravel substrate until the plant is a minimum of 1"-2" tall.
- Be patient! Succulent seeds can take from 5 days to 2 weeks before sprouting (sometimes longer depending upon the air temperature.)

Note: When filling the sides and front of the tray with gravel/substrate, use the smaller pieces of gravel for the front edge of the tray.

Instructional videos available online at www.aquaticvita.com

Safety Note: When performing any type of tank maintenance, it is important to unplug your LED light or submersible heater (if applicable).

Daily Care

1. Feed your fish once per day. Betta Fish often vary in eating habits, so experiment to see how much food your Betta eats. Set up routine feeding times, for example, feeding 3 pellets the same time each day. **DO NOT OVERFEED** and ensure to clean up any extra food your betta does not eat within 2 minutes.
2. Remove and discard any dead plants and/or fallen or dried leaves.

Note: Water Change Schedule

When first setting up your Vita, we recommend performing a 25% water change once per week for 4-6 weeks until your aquarium has completely gone through the nitrogen cycle (you can learn more at www.aquaticvita.com). After 4-6 weeks, a 50% water change should only be required once per month.

Weekly Maintenance

1. Remove any algae or build-up on the aquarium walls using an aquarium cleaning pad or magnet.
2. Perform a 25% water change or top-off with freshwater. (Visit aquaticvita.com for video instructions on water changes)

Monthly Maintenance

1. Remove grow tray and clean/remove any algae or build up on aquarium glass walls or grow tray.
2. Inspect Main Wick and ensure it is clean of any debris. Additional wicks are included in case it becomes covered or clogged with algae or slime.
3. Gently remove 50% of the water from the tank into a container and gently transfer the Betta Fish into the same container.
4. Pour remaining water, gravel and accent stones into the mesh bag. Rinse gravel and accent stones with dechlorinated water in mesh bag to clean thoroughly.
5. Replace gravel and accent stones back into aquarium and refill with 50% new dechlorinated room temperature water.
6. If the water temperature is similar, you can gently pour the water and Betta fish from the container into Vita and replace grow tray. If the temperature is different, acclimation may be required.

Growing Tips

- As a rule of thumb, if you're feeling comfortable, so are your plants and fish. If you're cold - they're cold too and likely need a heater. Some plants, such as succulents, germinate faster in warmer temperatures (above 70°F) while others like wheatgrass like it cooler. BE PATIENT - while some seeds may take a bit more time, most seeds will eventually germinate.

- The clear seedling dome helps regulate moisture and temperature for optimal germination. Leave the dome on until plant leaves are barely touching the dome top.

- Don't plant too many succulent seeds close together. They are hard to split apart later and usually 1-2 seeds is plenty!

- Marimo balls are GREAT additions to your Vita. We have kept Marimo balls for over a year, with and without a Betta Fish (many hobbyists keep Marimo balls as their pets!). They help keep water clean and require little to no maintenance.

**FAQ's****How fast will my plant grow?**

Plant growth will depend on the water and air temperature. We've seen both Pachy-podium and Desert Rose plants grow to transplant size between 3 and 6 months.

When should I transfer my plant to a pot or outside?

When your plant is 3-4" in height, we recommend transferring it into a hydroponic pot, soil pot or moving it outdoors. Succulents do require dry, warm air so ensure if planting it outside that your climate is ideal for succulents.

What is the grow media made from?

Our grow media pad is a coconut coir based media that will not crumble and is all natural for planting outdoors.

I'm going on vacation, do I need to feed my Betta everyday? What about the water level and evaporation?

Your Betta Fish can survive 2-3 days without food. If going on vacation, simply slide the thin Vacation Wick in the back right corner of the tray. It will reach to a deeper depth and supply plenty of water to your plant while you're gone.

Can I keep other fish or aquatic critters in my Vita?

We only recommend Betta Fish in the Vita.

What other plants can I grow in my Vita?

We have successfully grown other succulents, flowers (such as Coleus), micro-greens like wheatgrass, as well as herbs and leafy greens.

Why do you not suggest growing edible plants like kitchen herbs in my Vita?

Remember - you are what you eat and your aquaponic system is no different. Any chemicals added to the water (e.g. dechlorinator, fish food, etc) the plants will uptake. ONLY grow edible kitchen herbs and leafy greens if ALL chemicals and fish food used with the Vita are FDA Approved for human consumption.

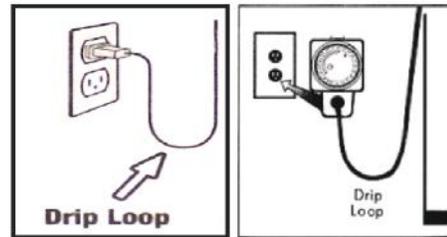
Optional LED Light



Grounding and Drip Loop Instructions

The Vita LED system is powered with a UL listed wall plug. To avoid possible electric shock, this transformer must be plugged into a GFCI wall outlet that is installed and grounded in accordance with all appropriate codes and ordinances.

A “Drip Loop”, shown to the right, should be used for ANY electrical product. This prevents water from traveling down the cord and coming in contact with the socket or power supply.



Vita LED Lighting System

Features include:

- 6,500K white LED plant light
- 6,500K white LED water-resistant aquatic light
- RGB tank glass edge lighting
- Single Touch On/Off
- Wireless remote control
- Integrated 24hr. plant & aquarium timer
- Simulates sunrise and sunset
- Easy clip-on installation

What's Included:

- LED Arm Light (1)
- Wireless Remote Controller (1)
- USB Wall Adaptor (1)



Note: Aquatic Light is water resistant but NOT submersible. Ensure light is not submersed under water.

Installation Instructions

1. Unpack LED system and ensure you have all parts.
2. Remove Grow Tray from the Vita. Slide LED arm through the slot in the back of the grow tray and snap into place.
3. Plug LED light into wall adaptor and follow Grounding and Drip Loop Instructions above.

Slide LED Arm into
back Grow Tray slot



Snap LED arm into place



Follow on/off and programming instructions on the next page.

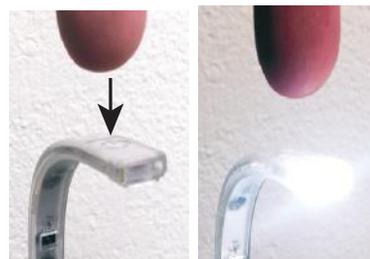
Vita Light Touch and Programming Instructions

The Vita LED Light can be controlled and turned on / off two different ways: via Touch Key on the LED arm or via wireless IR remote (included.)

1. Manual Touch ON/OFF Key

The ON/OFF Touch Key is located at the very top of the LED arm light. This key provides instant power on/off control for the AQUATIC PLANT and EDGE light.*

Press 1x to turn both lights ON
Press again to turn both lights OFF



Press to turn ON or OFF

2. IR Remote Control Programming

AQUATIC Light
Press 1x for 50% intensity
Press 2x for 100% intensity
Press 3x to turn OFF

PLANT Light
Press 1x for 50% intensity
Press 2x for 100% intensity
Press 3x to turn OFF

EDGE Static Colors
Press 1x turn ON
Press 2x fade single color
Press 3x to turn OFF

Main POWER ON/OFF
Press 1x to turn power ON/OFF

TIMER
Press 1x to set/reset 12hr. timer

EDGE FADE PROGRAM
Press 1x for all color fade program
Press 2x to hold at selected color
Press 3x to turn EDGE OFF

The remote features buttons for PLANT, AQUATIC, and TIMER at the top. Below these are icons for PLANT, AQUATIC, and EDGE. The bottom section contains six color-coded buttons (pink, green, blue, cyan, orange, and a white button labeled FADE) and the vita logo with the website aquaticvita.com.

TIMER for Plant & Aquatic Light

An integrated daily light timer provides your plant and fish with 12 hours of light each day. At the designated ON time, both lights will slowly ramp up to 100% intensity over 15 minutes simulating sunrise. In 12 hours both lights ramp down over 15 minutes to OFF simulating sunset.

At the exact time of day when you want the lights to come on, press the TIMER key. Note: If you experience a power interruption or turn Main POWER key ON/OFF, the timer will need to be re-set.

*Note: an internal memory chip stores the last color setting of the AQUATIC, PLANT and EDGE light, however does NOT store any timer settings. If using an external wall timer, turn on PLANT and AQUATIC lights to desired intensity and set EDGE light to desired static color or fade program. Program wall timer as per mfr manual.



vita

bring life
into your home

One Year Limited Warranty

Ecoxotic warrants this product against defects in materials and workmanship for a period of ONE (1) YEAR from the date of original retail purchase and is not transferable.

Warranty on all products, including aquariums, is limited to replacement of the product and does not cover fish loss, personal injury, property loss or direct, incidental or consequential damage arising from the use of this product. Ecoxotic's One Year Warranty does not cover damage caused by the following: water corrosion, electrical surges or any modifications.

If you discover a defect, please see your retail store or point of purchase. Ecoxotic will, at its option, repair or replace the product at no charge to you, provided you return it during the warranty period. A copy of the bill of sale is required as proof of original purchase date, in the event the product is in need of repairs within the warranty period. Please see your dealer for return options and warranty replacement parts. This warranty applies only to products by or for Ecoxotic, that can be identified by trade name or logo affixed to them. Ecoxotic does not warrant any products that are not Ecoxotic products.

This warranty does not apply if the product has been damaged by accident, abuse, misuse or misapplication or if the product has been modified without written permission of Ecoxotic, or if any Ecoxotic logos have been removed or defaced.

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