FISH & FEATHER PTY LTD

Rift Lake Basics.

Checklist

- Glass aquarium
- Coral Sand or Gravel
- Filter
- Heater & Thermometer
- Chlorine & Chloramine neutralizer (water ager)
- General hardness (GH) & Carbonate hardness (KH) generators
- pH, GH & KH test kits
- Magnetic glass cleaner
- Gravel siphon
- Net
- Food

Step 1

Rinse tank, Gravel and & accessories thoroughly in tap water.
Ideally place your aquarium away from windows or direct sunlight to minimise algae growth.

Step 2

Arrange first layer of white rock directly on glass bottom of aquarium, add coral sand & rest of rock work (this will make rock work more stable and less likely to move over time). Fill your aquarium with cold tap water & add water ager, GH & KH generators & trace elements as per directions. Add heater, thermometer & accessories & let sit for 12 hours. Test water to ensure correct water parameters (see our Water Quality Basics care sheet) and adjust as required.
(see our staff if unsure on how to do this).

Step 3

Remember that not all rift lake species are suitable to house in the same aquarium (see our staff for guidance). Introduce your rift lake fish to their new home by floating their transport bag in the aquarium for 10mins. Open the bag and add as much new aquarium water as is already in the bag. Float for another 10mins. Using a net, gently place your fish into their new home (without adding water from the transport bag).

Maintenance

Once a week remove 10% of aquarium water using a gravel siphon.
Add dechlorinator & GH & KH conditioners to the new water before adding it to the aquarium.
Always use cold tap water. Clean aquarium glass with a magnetic glass cleaner.
Replace filter sponges or rinse in removed aquarium water as required (do not rinse in tap water as this will destroy beneficial filtration bacteria). Remove & clean filter impeller & impeller cavity every 6 weeks or as required (see our Filter Maintenance care sheet).

Feeding

In nature, rift lake cichlids eat a diet that is lower in protein & higher in algae/vegetable matter.
A varied diet will maximize their health. A mixture of rift lake flakes & granules/pellets are a good staple diet & should ideally be supplemented with live brine shrimp & a mix of frozen blood worm, brine shrimp with spirulina, mysis & black shrimp, daphnia & veggie mix.

Tips

- Regularly test your water for ammonia, nitrite & nitrate levels to ensure your biological filtration is sufficient, you are maintaining it appropriately & your aquarium is not over stocked or overfed. (see our Biological Basics care sheet)

Feel free to contact the friendly staff at Fish & feather for further information

We recommend:

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