# SET UP YOUR FISH'S HOME

The Water Garden's 3-gallon tank is the perfect environment for a wide variety of small freshwater fish! We highly recommend a Betta Fish for its strength and beauty but others are welcome.

#### WHAT YOU'LL NEED



#### STEP 1:

Rinse tank, pump body, tube, and clip with tap water. Following the diagram below, assemble your pump by attaching the pump and clip to either end of the tube. Place the clip in the cutout on the tank lip, and suctioncup the pump to the inside tank wall.

The pump cord is submersible, but avoid getting the electrical plug wet while assembling your Water Garden. Refer to pump safety instructions for details.

CONSIDER ADDING DECOR TO YOUR WATER GARDEN TO MAKE IT YOUR OWN AND GIVE YOUR FISH SOMETHING TO SWIM AROUND!

IF YOUR HOME IS ON THE COOLER SIDE (BELOW 70 DEGREES) WE RECOMMEND A SMALL SUBMERSIBLE WATER HEATER.



Rather watch a video for setup instructions?

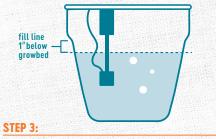
Visit backtotheroots.com/FAQ for an interactive guide & advise on other types of fish that work well in your new tank!



Water Conditioner

### Tuh STEP 2:

With your pump installed, fill your tank with room temperature tap water to 1" below where the grow bed sits. Add ~1/2 teaspoon of water conditioner to the tank water.



Your fish needs time to adapt to the temperature of its new home. Place your fish, while still in its separate container, into the water. Leave your fish in its container for 15 minutes to get used to things while you continue setup.



# 000 SET UP YOUR GARDEN







**Grow Medium** 

Organic Seeds

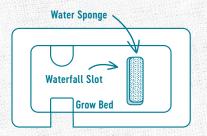
#### STEP 4:

**Grow Bed** 

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

As your fish adjusts to the tank water temperature. rinse the bed, sponge, and pods with tap water.

Place your water sponge in the waterfall slot indicated in the diagram.



## STEP 6:

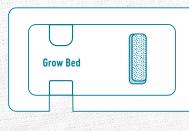
#### **RELEASE YOUR FISH!**

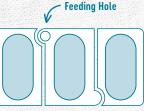
After 15 minutes, release your fish into the tank and place the assembled grow bed into the top of the tank. Plug in your pump, and you're up and running!



#### STEP 5:

Arrange your grow pods in the grow bed, making sure to align the round feeding hole in the grow pod and grow bed for easy fish feeding.





**Grow Pods** 



# PLANTING

## **PICK YOUR PLANTING PATH** WHAT DO YOU WANT TO GROW?

### PLANTING MICROGREENS



The microgreens we've included with your Water Garden are an excellent way to get your aquaponic ecosystem up and running

- Rinse grow medium and add 3/4 cup to each grow pod.
- Sprinkle seeds into each pod (see packets for serving size information).

#### HARVESTING

- Microgreen grow time is approximately 7–14 days.
- · To harvest, cut stems above grow medium and wash before eating.

#### REPLANTING

- Empty grow pod, wash thoroughly, and repeat previous planting instructions.
- If desired, your grow medium can be reused. It is important to rinse it thoroughly in hot water and remove all plant matter prior to replanting.

## **KEEP IT GROWING FOR FREE!**

Want to try growing different microgreens of get more grow medium to transplant with? Visit backtotheroots.com/refills to see our wide selection of seed replenishments and ongoing care supplies. Use the code below to get your first 2-month subscription of seeds & more grow medium for FREE!!



Promo Code: XXXXXXXXXXXXX

#### **IMPORTANT!**

Do not replace more than 1 pod per day! Your grow medium is home to beneficial nitrifying bacteria that help clean your tank and feed your plants; spacing out cleaning will allow the bacteria time to repopulate and do their job.

# **ONGOING CARE**

#### EVERY DAY

Feed your fish 4-5 pellets of the provided food through the feeding hole.

#### **EVERY WEEK**

Add water to keep the level within ~1 of the bottom of the grow bed. Always use purified water or add a dechlorinating water conditioner for new tank water.



Unplug and rinse pump under water to clean buildup around the vent and maintain water flow.

## TRANSPLANTING OTHER PLANTS

The Water Garden is a great home for a wide variety of plants besides the included microgreens - many of which will grow for long periods of time! From delicious herbs to bamboo or other houseplants, the grow bed is a blank canvas for your gardening dreams.

Scan this code or head to backtotheroots.com/ transplanting for extensive step-by-step instructions online





# **洋洋 EXPERIENCE** THE MAGIC OF AQUAPONICS



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Instructions for Setup & Care **ESTIMATED SETUP TIME: 20 MINUTES** 

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# **OUR ROOTS**

WHILE SENIORS IN COLLEGE, WE BECAME CURIOUS ABOUT A FACT WE LEARNED IN CLASS – GOURMET MUSHROOMS COULD GROW ON SPENT COFFEE GROUNDS - AND FELL IN LOVE WITH THE ADVENTURE OF GROWING OUR OWN FOOD.

NOW, WE'RE ON A MISSION TO HELP EVERY FAMILY & CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE THAT MAGIC OF GROWING - NO BIG BACKYARD OR GREEN THUMB NEEDED! WE HOPE YOU JOIN OUR JOURNEY TO GROW, TOGETHER.

**MUCH LOVE ALEJANDRO & NIKHIL Co-Founders** 

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Visit backtotheroots.com to check out our other organic gardening kits

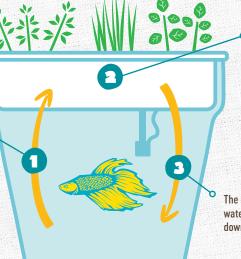


to your fish.

# THE SELF-CLEANING CYCLE AQUAPONIC ECOSYSTEM

The Water Garden is not your average fish bowl. While regular tanks require weekly water changes to keep your fish happy and healthy, the Water Garden uses an aquaponic self-cleaning cycle, so you don't need to clean the tank as often!

Your fish produces nutrient-rich waste. In regular aquariums, that waste builds up and becomes harmful



In the Water Garden, the plants clean the water by continually taking up nutrients from the waste as their food to grow.

The clean, filtered water drops back down to your fish!

## WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE **SCIENCE GOING ON IN YOUR TANK?**

Visit backtotheroots.com/curriculum to find all of our educational content related to the Water Garden, Aquaponics, and more!

# NELCOME MINTY TO YOUR VINITY WATER GARDEN

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BACKTO

ROOTS

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