



Thank you for purchasing an Interpet PF internal aquarium filter. In doing so you have chosen a product manufactured by the UK's leading aquatic equipment specialist.

With over 50 years experience in the aquarium hobby Interpet understands the importance of high quality, reliable easy to use products.

The Interpet PF filter has been designed to give highly effective, low maintenance filtration. This helps provide ideal conditions for your aquarium fish, plants and coral to thrive.

Your PF filter is the most advanced and comprehensive aquarium filter available today.

In addition to providing excellent filtration, through dual mechanical and chemical filter foams, the filter has several unique features.

Please read these instructions thoroughly before using your filter. Pay attention to the maintenance guide, to ensure you get the most benefit from this product.

Should you have any problems please first refer to the "Troubleshooting Guide" near the back of this instruction leaflet. If you still have any queries please contact your aquatic retailer, or Interpet's dedicated Customer Service team.

Happy fishkeeping!

WHY USE AN AQUARIUM FILTER?

The aquarium is a "closed" environment. By this we mean that the water in the aquarium is not constantly being replaced as in, for example, a stream or river. Any deterioration in the quality of the water can have a disastrous effect on the livestock in your aquarium.

There are a number of naturally occurring toxic compounds that can lead to an unhealthy aquarium if they are not treated by the filter. Your PF filter is equipped to deal with biological, chemical and mechanical filtration, thus providing a complete solution for your aquarium.

Mechanical filtration:

Mechanical filtration is the term used to describe the removal of particulate waste from the aquarium. This includes uneaten food, dead plant matter, fish waste and surfactants such as dust. In your PF filter, the plain foam performs the primary mechanical filtration.

Chemical filtration:

Chemical filtration takes place in the black foam of your PF filter. This foam is impregnated with carbon. Water is forced through this foam after having been pre-filtered by the plain foam's.

The carbon will help remove odours, toxic heavy metals and chlorine, water discoloration and unwanted treatments. The carbon foam has a finite life span and should be replaced every 3-6 weeks. The carbon foam must also be removed if treatments are in use, as if present it will remove these treatments, rendering them ineffective. Once the treatments have run their course the carbon foam can be placed back into the filter.

Biological filtration:

Decaying plant matter, fish food, fish waste and other organics will break down into a highly toxic compound called "Ammonia". If untreated, ammonia is lethal to fish even in very small concentrations. Fortunately there are naturally occurring bacteria in the aquarium that will break down ammonia into less harmful compounds.

The bacteria (known as Nitrosomonas) require an oxygen-rich environment and a media with a very high surface area in order to flourish. Once they have broken ammonia down into nitrite, a different type of bacteria (nitrobacter) breaks the nitrite down into a compound called nitrate, which is far less harmful to fish. Nitrate content can be kept at safe levels by performing regular, partial water changes (10% every 1-2 weeks).

The bacteria mentioned above will thrive on the plain foam's included with your PF filter. The plain foam's must never be washed in tap water, as this will kill the beneficial bacteria. If it does require rinsing this should only be done using a bucket of water taken from the aquarium. When you need to replace the foam's ensure you do so using 50% old and 50% new to ensure a continual supply of bacteria.

For more useful information on maintaining a healthy aquarium ask your retailer for the "Tankmaster Guide to creating and maintaining water quality" book.

To monitor ammonia, nitrite and nitrate levels in your aquarium we recommend Interpet's liquid or tablet test kits. Ask your retailer for more information.



PF FILTER FEATURES

The PF filter is packed with features for the benefit of you and your aquarium.

1 Directional Flow Control:

This is achieved by attaching the flow deflector to the outlet nozzle of the PF Mini. Use the flow deflector to push water in the desired direction. Remember that to achieve maximum oxygenation of the water, the flow deflector may be used to push water upwards, thus disturbing the surface of the aquarium, causing oxygen induction.

2 Foams:

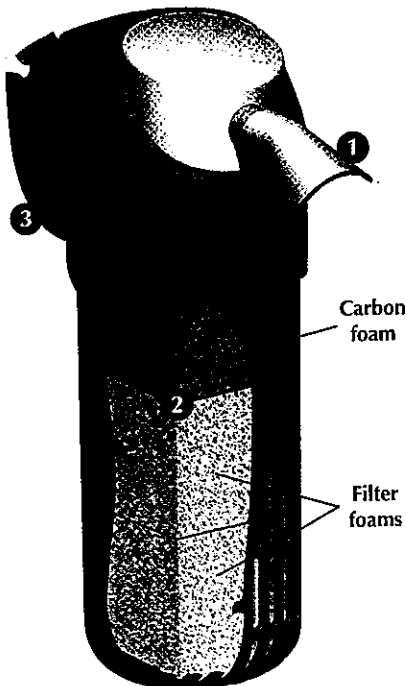
Your PF filter has 3 separate filter foams. The white foams provide the bulk of the mechanical and biological filtration. All the water entering the filter has to pass through these foams before continuing its path through the filter. The foams can be cleaned using aquarium water when dirty. Do not wash under the tap as this will harm the essential beneficial bacteria.

The black foam is carbon impregnated. Carbon is used to remove discoloration, toxins, pesticides, heavy metals and odour. It will also remove treatments and must therefore be taken out if treatments are being used.

Carbon has a finite effective life and should be replaced every 3-6 weeks.

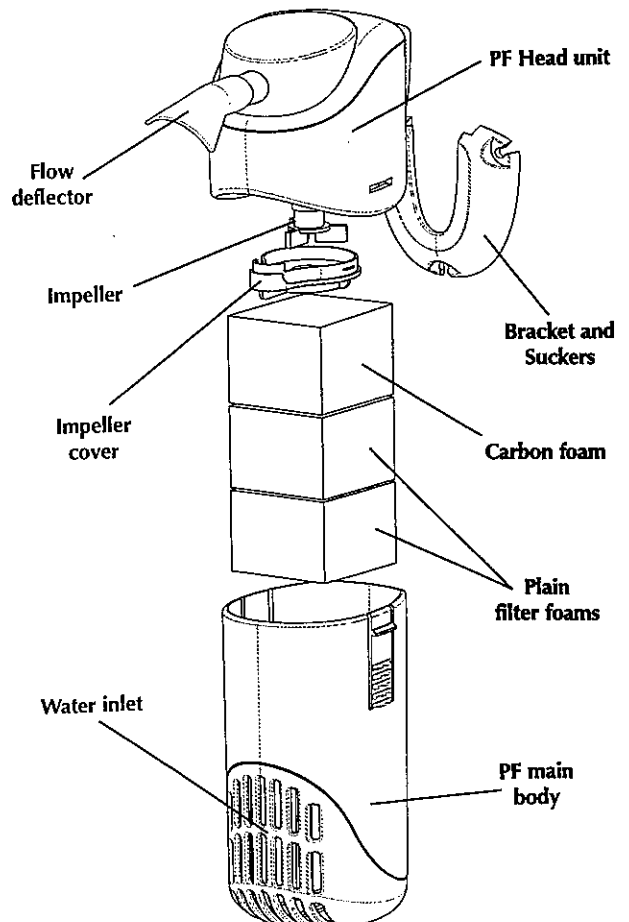
3 Fixing Bracket:

The PF Mini is supplied with an easy to use fixing bracket. The bracket and suckers can be left in place while the filter is removed from the aquarium for cleaning.



PF Filter features

INSIDE YOUR PF FILTER



INSTALLATION

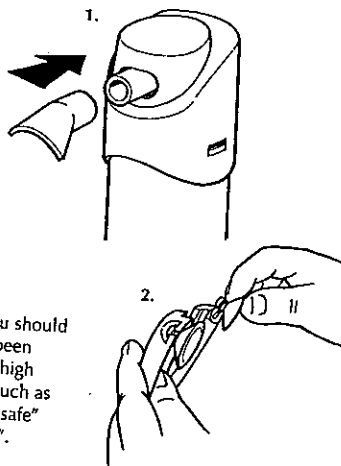
Your PF filter is set up for immediate operation.

1. Add the flow deflector to the outlet nozzle.
2. Attach the suckers to the support cradle and fix firmly to the back of the aquarium.

The PF filter can now be turned on and the filter will begin operating.



IMPORTANT: Before stocking your aquarium with fish you should ensure the water has been dechlorinated using a high quality dechlorinator such as Interpet "Bioactive Tapsafe" or Interpet "Fresh Start".



Tip away any water trapped in the filter, as this will have waste material in.

The foams can be thoroughly washed in a bucket containing aquarium water. The carbon foam will require replacing every 3-6 weeks.

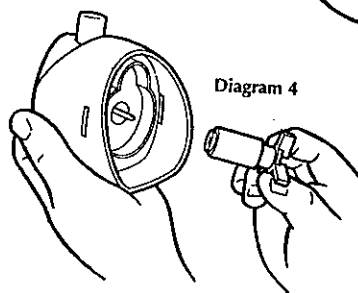
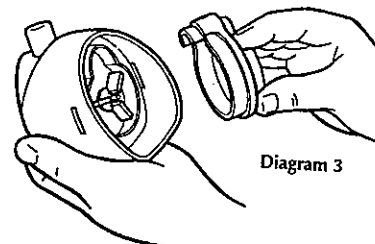
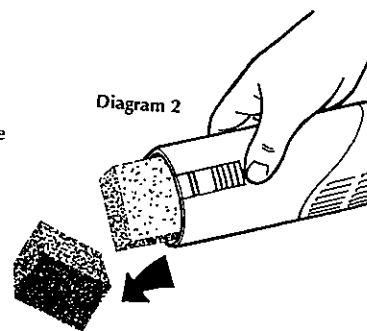
Once every 6 months clean the impeller.

To do this, remove the head unit from the filter (Diagram 1).

Then remove the impeller cover. You can now access the impeller.

Pull the impeller cover away from the head unit (Diagram 3), and carefully remove the impeller for cleaning (Diagram 4). Use a small, soft brush or cloth for this. The impeller is precision made and should be handled with care. If there is any sign of wear to the impeller blade or magnet, they should be replaced.

Over time, the suckers of the aquarium bracket may become brittle due to calcium in the aquarium water. If the suckers stop performing correctly, they can be replaced (see spares list).

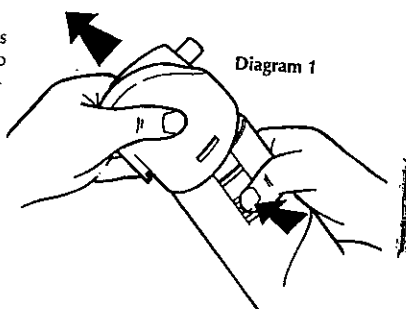


MAINTENANCE

The Interpet PF filter has been designed to give high performance with low maintenance, giving you more time to enjoy your aquarium. However, regular maintenance is an essential task if your aquarium fish are to remain healthy. Before maintaining your filter, you should turn the power off and disconnect from the mains.


Once the filter's power has been turned off, remove the filter body from the head. This is done by simply pushing the finger indents on either side of the top of the filter body, whilst pulling the head at the same time (Diagram 1).

Once the head is removed, tip the foams out to clean them (Diagram 2).

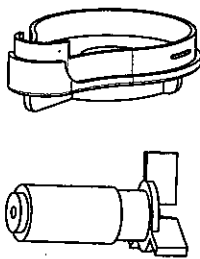


SPARES & ACCESSORIES FOR PF MINI FILTER

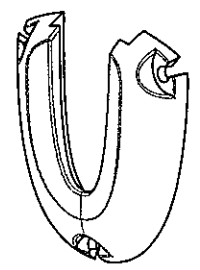
FLOW DEFLECTOR

Product code	2180	
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IMPELLER AND HOUSING


Product code	2181	
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BRACKET

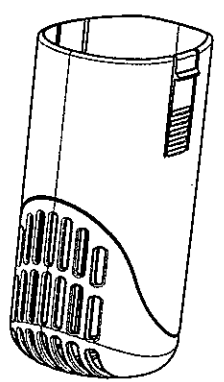
Product code	2184	
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SPARES & ACCESSORIES FOR PF MINI FILTER

SUCKER SET FOR BRACKET (x3 PCS)

Product code	2183	
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FILTER BODY

Product code	2182	
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REPLACEMENT FOAMS

Filter Foams	2230
Carbon Foams	2231

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem 1: PF filter flow rate drops considerably.

Solution: Check for blockages to the filter inlets. Ensure fibrous material such as plant matter has not formed an obstruction. Remove the foams and clean them if blocked. If the foams have lost their shape, they may be fully blocked and will need replacing. If this does not resolve the flow rate problem, check the impeller (see problem 2)

Problem 2: PF filter is noisy

Solution: The impeller of the pump may need cleaning/replacing, to do this the impeller should be removed. The impeller should be carefully cleaned using a soft cloth. A small brush or cloth may be inserted into the impeller chamber, removing any debris inside. Once the impeller has been cleaned the magnet should be inspected for any damage such as cracks or pieces missing. If the impeller magnet is damaged in any way, the impeller should be replaced.

Problem 3: Powercut

Solution: Any interruption of more than 2-3 hours of the water supply through the filter will cause the bacteria in the filter to die. Should this occur, do not simply re-start the filter. You must thoroughly clean ALL the filter material and start the filter again. In an aquarium fully stocked with fish, this may lead to water quality problems. The filter should be seeded with Interpet Filter Start. Regular checks should be made on the ammonia levels, and if they reach detectable levels, we recommend the use of Interpet Ammonia Remover.

Problem 4: Water will not stay crystal clear

Solution: If the aquarium does not contain large, messy fish it is recommended that you consider using Interpet's Filter Aid which clumps together fine particles and allows them to be removed more effectively by the filter foams. Additionally cut down on feeding levels for two to three days and ensure you regularly perform partial water changes.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS



1. Connecting of the Pump to Mains Supply.
 - a) Check that the voltage of the mains supply corresponds to the voltage shown on the pump.
 - b) It is recommended for safety that all aquarium equipment is best connected through an earth leakage circuit breaker (RCD).

NOTE: connection to the mains can be made directly via the plug as fitted.

2. This apparatus is fitted with a 13 amp (BS1363) plug with a 3 amp fuse. With this or any other type of plug an ASTA 3 amp or 5 amp fuse to BS1362 must be fitted either in the plug or adapter, or at the distribution board.
3. Replacement of Plug

IMPORTANT: This apparatus is double insulated and does not have a third (earth) wire. The wires on the lead should therefore be connected as follows: The BLUE lead should be connected to the NEUTRAL terminal on your plug or cable tidy. This terminal may be marked with an 'N' or coloured blue or black. The BROWN lead should be connected to the LIVE terminal on your plug or cable tidy. This terminal may be marked with an 'L' or coloured brown or red.

DO NOT CONNECT EITHER WIRE TO THE EARTH TERMINAL.
If in doubt consult a qualified electrician.

WARRANTY

This product is warranted as free from defects in materials and workmanship for a period of 2 years from the date of purchase. The warranty covers only any defects caused during normal use and operation of the filter, in accordance with the instructions enclosed.

It does not apply to any unauthorised modifications or misuse, improper or inadequate maintenance, or operations outside the product specifications. In case of defect within the stated warranty period, the product should be returned, with proof of purchase, to the point of purchase.

Neither Interpet nor the manufacturer are liable for any direct, indirect, special, incidental or consequential damages arising from a defect in this product.

CONSUMER ADVICE CONTACT DETAILS

Interpet Consumer Advice Department
Vincent Lane, Dorking, Surrey, RH4 3YX

Telephone: 0845 226 7437 (Monday to Friday, 10am to 4pm except Bank Holidays)

Fax: 01306 876712

E-mail: customercare@interpet.co.uk