

Freshwater Bath TECH Sheet

A freshwater bath is when you put a saltwater fish into fresh water for a brief period of time. This procedure is usually done to treat or prevent external diseases. We recommend this as part your acclimation procedure.

- 1) Prepare a small amount of freshwater by conditioning it and synchronizing the temperature with your aquarium temperature.
- 2) Remove the fish from the aquarium or the shipping bag (after properly acclimating it) and put it into the freshwater.
- 3) Leave the fish in the fresh water for approximately 3 minutes. Keep the fish up and swimming around during this time.
- 4) Net the fish and introduce it to the aquarium after the 3 minutes has passed. Always release fish head first from the net.
- 5) Discard the water after you are done with it. Do not add it to the aquarium. Never add shipping water to your aquarium.

This procedure is safe for marine fish. **Do not** subject invertebrates (anemones, starfishes, sea urchins, snails, etc.) to freshwater baths.

The time can be adjusted to suit your individual preferences. Some books recommend freshwater baths as long as 20 minutes. We have found three-minute baths to work great for us.