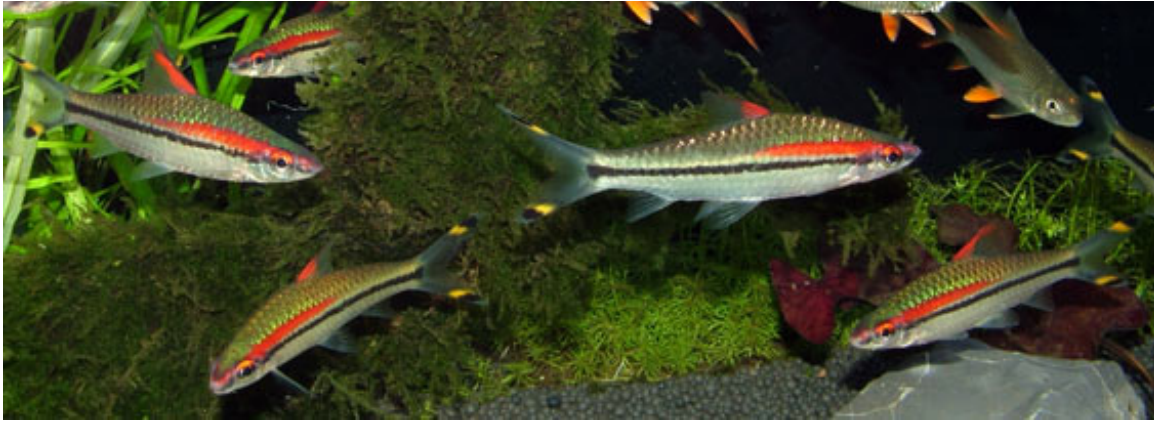


## Barbs

*Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff*



[Barbs](#) are small, colorful, active fish ideally suited for the community aquarium. These hardy fish are predominately found in Southeast Asia, but some species may be found in Africa and India. Currently, most species are bred commercially both overseas and in the U.S., making these fish ideal candidates for both the beginner and expert aquarist.

Barbs consist of some of the most popular of all tropical fish, adding color, interest, and beauty to any larger community aquarium. These fish are active schooling fish that require plenty of swimming room and a tight fitting lid, as they are prone to leaping out of the aquarium when startled.

Barbs are semi-aggressive fish when housed in the aquarium individually, so it is important to maintain each species in groups of six or more. This technique will minimize aggression towards more passive tank mates.

### Interesting Facts:

<b>Family:</b>	<i>Cyprinidae.</i>
<b>Origin:</b>	Southeast Asia, Africa, and India. Currently bred commercially for the aquarium hobby.
<b>Size:</b>	From 2 to 6 inches
<b>Diet:</b>	Omnivorous.
<b>Tank Setup:</b>	Freshwater. Live plants and driftwood are ideal.
<b>Tank Conditions:</b>	74-79°F; pH 6.0-7.8; KH 4-10
<b>Min. Tank Capacity:</b>	30 gallons
<b>Light:</b>	Natural.
<b>Temperament:</b>	Semi-aggressive.
<b>Swimming Level:</b>	Middle and bottom of aquarium.
<b>Care Level:</b>	Easy
<b>Reproduction:</b>	Egg layers.