

Salt Mix FAQs

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What is the difference between Instant Ocean and Reef Crystals?

Reef Crystals is formulated with higher levels of calcium and select trace elements than Instant Ocean to support coral health in reef aquariums. These "extras" are not a necessity for fish-only aquariums, but it is still safe to use for that purpose if you wish.

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What is a Refractometer and how do I use it?

[Refractometers](#) are an incredibly accurate way to measure salt levels, even at very low levels. Not only can refractometers be used for saltwater aquariums, but also for African Cichlid and goldfish aquariums that use much lower levels of salt. They compensate for temperature AND are very easy to use. Just lift the plastic lid from the angular end, place a drop of water on the surface, and close the lid. Look through the viewing lens (round end) as if you're looking through a telescope. The line where the blue and white areas meet is your salinity or specific gravity, depending on whether you look on the right or left side.

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Can I still use my Python if I have a saltwater aquarium?

Yes. Set your saltwater mixing container next to the aquarium that will be getting a water change. When the new water is ready, use the [Python No Spill Clean 'N' Fill Aquarium Maintenance System](#) to clean the gravel and drain water. Then, hook the end of the Python up to the pump in the container and deliver new water to the aquarium.

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Why does my salt mix turn into a rock after I've had it a while?

Moisture. Always make sure to properly seal and store your salt mix as soon as you are finished with it. Do not store the measuring cup you use to prepare saltwater, inside your salt mix container as it often collects moisture while being used. Bags of salt are best stored inside a plastic container with a good seal.

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