

light-sensitive corals or invertebrates, the typical freshwater lighting fixture will work well for a Fish-Only marine setup, although you may want to consider color temperature output(K rating) better suited for marine set-ups.

Basic equipment and care requirements

Quality [marine aquarium salt](#), a [hydrometer](#), and a [marine test kit](#) are the most basic and essential items you will need. Saltwater needed to successfully house marine species has to be carefully mixed and tested. Make sure the specific gravity is 1.020-1.025. As with freshwater, a stable temperature is required before fish can be introduced. Many marine fish are sensitive to water conditions and closer attention to water quality may be required for success.

In addition to your existing filter, supplementary filtration, provided by a [protein skimmer](#), is highly recommended to ensure ideal water quality. Protein skimmers actively remove dissolved organic compounds from the water before they have a chance to break down and compromise water quality.

As for [substrate](#), an [aragonite sand bed](#), usually made from crushed corals, is recommended. It not only adds a natural aesthetic appeal but also helps supplement biological filtration and pH buffering. For an even more natural look, consider adding live rock. Live rock is coral rock that supports encrusting life and provides food, shelter, visual appeal, and biological filtration to keep your aquarium clearer and cleaner.

There are endless possibilities with marine aquariums but the best approach is to start simple. Move to more ambitious setups as you gain confidence and experience in this richly rewarding hobby.

Essentials

- [Test Kits](#) guide you through aquarium cycling. They cue you when ammonia and nitrite levels have bottomed out, so you can add your livestock.
- [Instant Ocean Salt](#) contains necessary major, minor, and trace elements for a thriving marine aquarium.
- [Deep Six Hydrometer](#): easy-to-read swing-arm hydrometer makes accurate measuring of specific gravity and salinity simple.

Fish-Only or FOWLR Aquarium Parameters	
Parameter	Suggested Level
Specific Gravity	1.020 - 1.025
Temperature	72 - 78°F
pH	8.1 - 8.4
Alkalinity	8 - 12 dKH
Ammonia (NH3)	Undetectable
Nitrite (NO2)	Undetectable
Nitrate - Nitrogen (NO3)	< 30 ppm
Phosphate (PO4)	< 1.0 ppm

Question:

Will I be able to use the

Answer:

Fundamental pieces such as filters, heaters, thermometers, and the aquarium itself can be used for saltwater applications. Make sure they are

equipment I have from my freshwater aquarium to set up a saltwater aquarium?

aquarium itself can be used for saltwater applications. Make sure they are safe for saltwater use and new filter media is used. All saltwater aquariums require a minimum investment in a quality marine aquarium salt, a hydrometer, and a marine test kit.