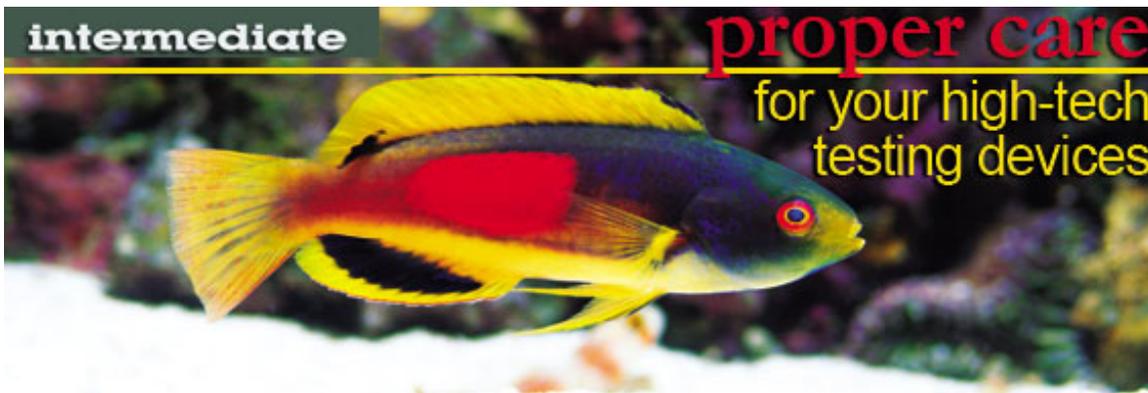


# Extend Reliable Use of Electronic Testing Devices

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff



[High-tech aquarium testing devices](#) afford greater accuracy and convenience.

However, to ensure precision test results and years of reliable use, it is essential to take proper care of these devices.

Why do I need to calibrate electronic testers?

A. Calibration establishes standardized reference points for electronic testers. Over time, deviations from these reference points can occur even in precision testing devices. Regular calibration is essential to maintain reference points necessary for accurate test results.

The following tips will help keep your testing devices operating at peak performance so you can maintain a healthy environment for your aquarium inhabitants.

- **Practice proper probe care** - It is important to keep the probe clean to prevent damage or contamination. Be sure to protect the probe tip when the unit is not in use. Most models include a protective case for convenient probe storage. Gently rinse the probe tip with purified reverse osmosis water or rinse solution and blot dry prior to storage. Never use commercial cleaning solutions.
- **Optimize calibration for accurate test results** - For greatest accuracy, it is recommended to calibrate your electronic tester before each measurement. To ensure a stable reading, soak the probe tip in the [calibration fluid](#) for several minutes before initial calibration. Calibration solutions should be stored at room temperature.
- **Provide a reliable power supply** - Replace old batteries and use fresh batteries for clear and accurate results. Most electronic testers and monitors have a "low battery" feature that alerts you to the status of your batteries. Consider an [AC Adapter Kit](#) for a reliable and uninterrupted power source.
- **Identify waterproof devices** - While these devices are designed to measure aquarium water, some units are not submersible or completely waterproof. Be aware of how your device is rated. Oftentimes only the probe or probe tip is waterproof and the monitor/display must be kept dry during use. Getting sensitive electronic components wet may cause corrosion and damage.

The care and calibration of electronic testers will vary slightly from product to product so be sure to follow manufacturer recommendations.