

Fish 'n Flush

Fish 'n Flush Most Asked Questions

From the Designers Desk of Dunny: Official Goatfish of the Fish 'n Flush

Dunny Note: After you read this, everything should become more confusing. Over 1000 people that have never read this, or care to, are enjoying the Fish 'n Flush. But from Russia to South Africa, the American Continents, to the Pacific Rim and growing everyday more questions pour in and we are having trouble answering each one as the Fish 'n Flush increases in popularity. So, due to popular demand by potential new friends who are not yet happily satisfied owners of a Fish 'n Flush we are answering in one, long, drawn out, thesis length document all the questions we get on a daily basis from those individuals who have to know everything before they make a decision. For those of you who already own a Fish 'n Flush, skip to the first questions because you are already experiencing the next paragraph.

The Fish 'n Flush is very simply, an aquarium that replaces your toilet tank. It is easy to install in 15-20 minutes, fun to have and requires little maintenance. It works just like a regular toilet tank except that it is REALLY COOL. (You folks that own one didn't skip, did you?)

So, having been warned, all of you ...read on.

WHO IS DUNNY?

The fish found on our logo is loosely based on the Australian Goat Fish from the Land Down Under. His name is Dunny. Dunny is Australian slang for the toilet and goat fish are bottom feeders.

WILL IT FIT MY TOILET?

The Fish 'n Flush was designed with a special adjustable bolt system to fit most 1.6 gal (low flow) 2 piece, tank type toilets with an A) 2 bolt (only 2 bolts attach the tank to the bowl) and a B) 2" to 2 3/8" flush hole. If you don't know what all that means well the majority of toilets on the market today fit that description. It does NOT fit 3 bolt tanks or 3" flush holes. Confusing? Go to anywhere that sells toilet bowls and they will know exactly what you need. (If they don't, run out really fast and visit their competitor).

DOES IT COME WITH THE BOWL?

No. It would cost more to ship the bowl than to replace the bowl in many cases. This is a retrofit tank to replace your existing tank. Some just want to replace their bowl anyway but remember, if you buy a new bowl, you do not need to buy the tank. Bowls can be found at a price range from \$29 to \$1500. We have found that a \$29 to \$50 toilet works great.

DO I NEED A PLUMBER TO INSTALL THE FISH 'N FLUSH?

Maybe. However, we did the "Are You Smarter than a 5th Grader Test". The instructions were handed to a 5th grader (one of the designers sons) and he was asked to install it without asking any questions. It was his first time to see it. His only tool was a pair of pliers and 20 minutes later he was done. He has now done it in 12 minutes flat!



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(He thinks he is the world record holder and so here is where we issue the world challenge for anyone to beat it). That's my son over there.

Replacing a toilet bowl is also very easy and there are lots of web sites to help you through it.

WHAT TYPE OF BOWL DO YOU NEED?

A **toilet bowl** ☺. See [Will it Fit My Toilet](#) for detailed information.

DOES IT COME WITH THE FISHY SEAT?



Nope. We bought our seat from Home Depot who no longer carries them in our area. However, we have since ordered from several online locations. Try www.target.com, www.thejohntopper.com, and <http://www.sppi.com/catalog.php?id=197>. The seats can be located also on Ebay but as always with online auctions you must be wary of the quality. We have heard of several other online shops that have nice seats but we do not know about them first hand. Remember, you need to know round front or elongated for the shape of the bowl! If you look at the OTHER STUFF (coming soon) on our web site you will see toilet seats we have found on the web. There are lots to choose from so shop around until you find one that really suits your taste.

IS IT FOR AN ELONGATED OR A ROUND FRONT TOILET?

Yes it is. There are two basic toilet shapes, round and elongated. That only matters for the seat and not the fit of the Fish 'n Flush.



HOW DOES IT AFFECT MY TOILET OPERATION?

Because the inner 2.5-gallon flush tank (flush tank) has a smaller surface area, the water level for the same 1.6-gallon low flow flush is higher. This causes the same effect as putting a brick in the tank to increase the head pressure. It may help your toilet get a better and more powerful flush.

Since it is a two-part system, the aquarium piece can be removed without affecting the toilet. This also means you can remove the front tank to decorate or clean without disabling the toilet.

WHAT COLORS DO THE FISH 'N FLUSH COME IN?

To misquote a great man "You can have it in any color you want, as long as it's white." Actually, what color do you want? Both the flush tank and the wrap around aquarium tank are clear. The color comes from a) the **gravel** and b) the **background**. The tank lid only comes in white. Several people have made tank lid covers out of beach towels and it looks awesome!

- **THE GRAVEL (NOT INCLUDED)**

Gravel comes in a wide variety of colors. I take my towels or a paint chip to the aquarium store and match the gravel to my color scheme. There are lots of colors to choose from. Use the smaller gravel rather than the larger. The smaller size assists with keeping the micro system balanced. There are lots of neat things to add into the tank such as plastic rocks, pearls, small treasure chests and I even found a small red Buddha for my Japanese Zen style bathroom.

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- **THE BACKGROUND (ONE BACKGROUND INCLUDED)**

The background paper that is included with the kit wraps around the front side of the flush (inner) tank and attaches at the back of the tank with scotch tape. Make sure the top to the paper is below the notches on either side of the flush tank. Because there is a slight draft (that tank slopes) the background paper will not fit tight against the back tank. Don't worry, be happy. It works great that way.

Then again, some folks like to watch the flushing action as the water leaves the flush tank and creates the illusion that the fish are out of water. Not my preference. I like other colors and here is how I get it.

There is a small space (1/8" to 1/4") between the two tanks and the kit comes with standard aquarium paper that wraps around the inside tank but there are so many things that can be used. Since there is that small space between the tanks, lots of options are available. Here are some suggestions:

- Rubber placements found at places like Michaels. I found a SpongeBob Squarepants placemat at a discount store!
- Foam craft mats
- Vinyl paper found at art stores
- Laminate pictures from numerous web sites or your own pictures to match you bathroom scene
- Background paper for aquariums found at most stores where fish are sold.
- Wallpaper

Change it out any time you get the urge for a different look. Holidays, special occasions or just because. Now, when you change the wallpaper, towel color or bathroom scheme, you can change the color of your toilet tank for about \$10.

WHERE DO YOU SHIP?

Anywhere in the world. We are slowly building a distributor base. Please see our web site for a distributor near you. Call us at 1-866-598-FISH (3474) for international shipping rates.

WILL IT FIT UNDER MY COUNTER TOP

The tank height is 13 3/4 " and was designed to fit under the "banjo" counters that run across the top to the toilet. The flush button is nearly flush with the top of the tank so only a hands width of space is needed between the top of the tank and the counter.

DOES IT NEED ELECTRICITY

If you plan on having fish or lights, yes. With all the new gadgets from heated toilet seats (ouch) to warm water bidets (oohhh), and heated toilet paper holders (can you say FIRE), many new bathrooms are built with a standard 115V, GFI electrical outlet near the toilet. Otherwise, if you do not want to add an outlet, most hardware and home improvement stores carry a nice cord cover that can be run along the baseboard to keep the cord neatly tucked out of the way. All of our electrical components are low voltage so no worries about accidental shocking.



If you add an outlet for the Fish 'n Flush, place it tank level and to one side.

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WHEN I FLUSH THE TOILET DOES IT AFFECT THE WATER IN THE AQUARIUM?

No. Keep in mind there are two completely independent tanks and there is space in between them. If the bathroom gets really cold, you may need a heater but the water going into the flush tank will warm to the ambient room temperature before it can affect the temperature of the front tank significantly. If your bathroom is that cold, may we also recommend the heated toilet paper roll.



WHAT ABOUT A HEATER?



We do not provide one, and there are many beautiful fish that do not need a controlled temperature. However, if you are going for tropical fish, you may require a heater in which case the tank is a 2.2 gallon aquarium which would require only a 7.5 watt heater. We recommend an automatic heater that turns on and off as needed. We have seen them for as low as US \$12.95 for a 25 watt heater. Get one that attaches with a suction cup to the inside of the tank.

MINE IS FOR A VACATION HOME. HOW WILL THE FISH LIVE?

Why do you need live fish? Live plants, floating fish, bubblers, holiday scenes, rock gardens, sand sculptures... Have fun with it.

CAN I PUT OTHER ANIMALS IN IT?



Lizards, snakes, frogs, scorpions (if you want to get your teenage daughter out quickly), plants, ladybugs, praying mantis and even fish... YES. The top grate was designed not only to hold the lights but also to keep critters in.

DOES IT COME WITH LIGHTS?

It does not come with lights but you can order them from us when you order the Fish 'n Flush. We only sell the Moon White but they come in different colors. Look below for the section titled Replacement Parts for more information.

The Fish 'n Flush with the LED light kit brings a very warm and soothing glow to the bathroom. Many people light scented candles, pay thousands of dollars for special lighting and then add sound effects to their bathroom. We create a special environment for a lot less money.

Think of the sounds of gurgling brook, low ambient lights with a beautiful, light glow as they reflect off the colored rocks in the aquarium. Add that to the natural relaxation that accompanies sitting in front of an aquarium and it makes for a very Zen-like bath experience. (It can also act as a guiding light for those late night visits with King Ralph, and the witness don't talk.)

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WHAT MATERIALS ARE USED TO MAKE THE FISH 'N FLUSH?

The tanks are a special impact, stain, and scratch resistant plastic. The co-polyester material (PCTG) from the Eastman Chemical Company boasts optical clarity, extreme toughness and is FDA approved for food use. The tanks are actually stronger than the regular porcelain tanks. In testing, the nylon bolts that attach the tank were tightened down (they boast 4500 lb tensile strength) until the tanks actually bent. Days later, no damage occurred to either the tanks or the bolts. Since you only need to hand tighten the bolts, we feel pretty confident that breakage is unlikely.

ARE THE FISH AFFECTED BY THE FLUSHING?

We took tremendous time, effort and money to make sure we had a product that would not cause undue harm to the fish. Much research has been done on micro-aquariums and the Fish 'n Flush system was designed and approved by an expert in that field. As a matter of fact, the marine biologist that designed and approved the system was also a marine biologist on the staff of the Georgia Aquarium www.georgiaaquarium.com; the largest in the world, dedicated to protecting aquatic life and educating the public on aquatic life in fresh as well as salt water environments. As we were told, fish in the wild deal with a much more stressful and violent environment; even in small farm ponds and large controlled Koi ponds. If you have ever been diving in either the ocean or a lake, it is anything but a quiet environment; it is a times, almost deafening. Fish are constantly being bumped, prodded, and poked even in the most serene environments. Just think of a school of fish in the open ocean. Miles of openness yet they are constantly against each other with sharp fins. Fish that live within rocks, coral reefs, and even around water lilies experience an exponentially greater amount of environmental stress than in our Fish 'n Flush.



AquaOne Technologies DID take time to study the impact and contracted with professional aquarists and marine biologists to insure a fish-safe product. The design that is sold in the marketplace is not the original and a large expense was incurred to insure the fish would live in as non-stressful an environment as possible.

We expected this to be a hit with kids from the ages of 1 to 12 years. Since all of us at AquaOne have kids and/or grandkids, our thoughts were always on the impact of the death of the family goldfish on our lives. This propelled us to take the time to make it right the first time. (The ages of our customers have actually been widespread with little relation to families with young children.)

Note of Attention: Although the product has been deemed fish safe for all intent and purpose, please continue to keep all business ends aimed directly into bowl. In case of a traumatic event such as a fish actually seeing you do your business, there are several emergency procedures that can be followed. We have lists of psychologists (fishhead doctors), ophthalmologists (fisheye doctors), and a schedule of all previous Dr. Phil episodes dealing with Stress Coat. These are all for you (the users) not the fish because they SO do not care. You may also purchase our book "Cradle to Grave in One Short Leap: An autobiography of one fish's wonderful and enlightened journey through life in the Fish 'n Flush" found in all fine underwater bookstores worldwide. 13-year-old author seen on left.



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WILL IT FIT ON A ONE PIECE TOILET?

No. Did you pay attention to the very first question?

CAN THE FISH SEE ME WHEN I, YOU KNOW, DO MY BUSINESS?



With very little training, most people have learned to lift the lid when they are using the toilet blocking the fish's view of your privates. If your fish wears a red cape with a large S on it and is affected by Kryptonite, you may have to be concerned. Next question!

WHAT KIND OF FISH CAN I USE?

We are techies and we only live near Hollywood; we are not professional fish wranglers. **Ask your local aquarist what fish go well together and which fish are suitable for your particular location.** We do however recommend small, community fish and it believe it makes a beautiful mansion for a lone Beta Fish. Our in-store tanks feature mollies, goldfish, guppies, tetras, betas, and a bunch of fish we can't even pronounce.

We have had the same fish in our Fish 'n Flush for more than a year. We even had a crawfish that molted three times. (We finally moved Ralph to a 50-gallon tank in someone's home where he learned how to catch the fish. They now have a crawfish tank). We feel confident in our product just from our own experiences and that confidence is continually re-enforced through e-mails, letters and phone calls from our customers.

Finally, we know of a bass fisherman in Georgia who has fry (baby bass) in his tank... Go 'Dawgs!

As with ANY aquarium (or pet), the true quality of life is directly related to the caregiver. We feel confident in our product just from our own experiences and that confidence is continually re-enforced through e-mails, letters and phone calls from our customers.

HOW MANY FISH CAN I USE?

See Above. But, from what we were told by the professional, the number of fish determines how often you will need to clean the tank. We filtration was designed as overkill for the tank size so we put more fish in than are usually recommended. Again **See Above.** The water is easy to change on a regular basis because we provide a siphon pump to pump the water from the aquarium tank directly into the flush tank.

It is an aquarium so follow basic aquarium maintenance guidelines, and again, PAY ATTENTION-See Above.

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WHAT IS THE MAINTENANCE FOR THE TANK?

Before using, clean the inside and outside of the aquarium with soapy water and rinse thoroughly. After installation, wipe down with warm soapy water whenever you clean your toilet. When the time comes to do a full clean, remove the plants and decorations, siphon a little of the aquarium water into a small bowl and remove the fish into the bowl. Have replacement water prepared and ready if you do this.

We then take the tank out back and stick the garden hose into it. Then it's BLAST AWAY at the gravel until the water runs clear. This may take about 5 minutes. Leave the tubes in place until you finish so the gravel does not get under the grate. After you have blasted, if you need to, remove the top of the tubes.

If you want to remove the gravel and take out the grate there is a trick. Remove as much of the gravel as you can and shake a few times. Remove the filter tubes so that only the filter plate is in the tank. Place a board on the ground with a towel or piece of cardboard on top. Turn the aquarium over, raise it about 6 inches over the board and slam in firmly on the board. The grate should pop out. Be careful and try not to let the tank slam on pieces of gravel. The tank is strong but it could cause small chips in the rim. This will not hurt the look of your tank, but it is better to be safe than sorry!



A magnetic cleaning block for plastic tanks works great for removing algae. One piece goes inside the tank and the other on the outside. The two pieces cling together and you can just move the outside piece up and down to clean the inside to the tank. Totally cool! We've seen them at lots of pet shops. Again, ask your local fish person what ideas they have.

DOES IT COME WITH A FILTRATION SYSTEM?

Our system is an under-gravel filter system and features dual filter tubes. It is a self-sustaining biological filter. As we mentioned previously (and will probably mention continuously because we are very proud of it) the marine biologist who designed our system helped with the world's largest aquarium, the Georgia Aquarium. But don't let that stop you? If you are an expert or advanced hobbyist, do your thing and bling or trick it out. Throw in an extra 100-watt air pump, add a re-circulating water pump with 400 gallons per minute re-cycle power, super charged bio-gravel and a Hurst short throw shifter.

Seriously, it all depends on the environment the tank is in such as direct or indirect sunlight, ambient temperature, temperature changes, etc. Your local aquarium shop can help add equipment to the tank if you have really think you need it. We have yet to hear of any issues.

If you want to know how different filtration systems work there a lots of web sites that agree and disagree on how to best filter a tank. The Democrat Fishmen say "more and bigger filtration" the Republican Fishmen say "teach them to breath air on their own". Our Independent Marine Biologist says "I've been doing this for years, leave it alone, it works!" She is one tough lady, and we aren't going to argue.



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WHERE DO I GET REPLACEMENT PARTS?

Most of the parts that wear out or need replacing as a part of regular aquarium maintenance can be purchased at aquarium shops and pet stores around the world. Below will help you easily locate parts.

- **FILTER TUBES, CARBON CARTRIDGES**

These are carried in many aquarium and pet shops across the North America, and some international locations. Lee's Aquarium and Pet Supply makes them. For more details go to their web address: <http://www.leesaqpet.com> .

Riser Tube Assembly 13055 - UGF Uplift Tube Assembly 7.5"H - 10"H

Replacement Carbon Cartridge 13023 - Premium Carbon Cartridge, Disposable - Twin Pack

- **AIR STONES, 6MM TUBING**

The tubing is 6mm tubing. Just get replacement air stones to fit. Both are available at all aquarium shops.

- **AIR PUMP**

We use a 12-volt, 80Hz, 2W pump. It is simply a small aquarium pump and can be replaced at any aquarium or pet shop where fish are sold. You can add manifolds for air control, bubblers under the gravel for front bubbling and toys such as bubbling divers and treasure chests so more powerful pumps may be necessary.

- **LIGHT SYSTEM**

The kit consists of two different light sets. Lunar Light, Moon White #1650 and Lunar Link Moon White #1653. The lights are also available from distributors in Reptilian Red (1651, 1654) and Nocturnal Blue (1652, 1655). For details go to the Current USA website: <http://www.current-usa.com/orbit.html>.

- **TANK TRIM (ALL THE STUFF INSIDE THE FLUSH TANK)**



Your local home repair or hardware store can assist you with most of the parts. The fill valve is a short style, the flapper valve is standard 2 1/4". You may need to cut the fill tube so measure the old one when the time comes. The tank-to-bowl gasket (s) is standard. These parts last a long time but you may want to keep this in a file somewhere to make it easy in 10 years when you have to replace them just like in any other toilet.

The tank pieces we send with the kit including the push button are manufactured by ether LAB Sanitary or WDI. They are distributed in many major home repair shops. Several other companies carry compatible parts so check with your local plumbing repair department or store.

- **EVERYTHING ELSE WE MANUFACTURE:**

Both tanks

Under gravel filter plate

Top grate

Lid

Push-button bridge

Tank Bolts

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CHANGES AND MODIFICATIONS

Since we made it perfect the first time ☺, we cannot at this time see how to make improvements. However, some late night when we are contemplating our Fish 'n Flush and the meaning of life, we may have an epiphany and change some things. (Actually we are working on a 3 bolt, 3" flush-hole variation but that's another fish story.)

LAST BUT NOT LEAST...HOW DID YOU COME UP WITH THE IDEA?

AND IF YOUR INTERESTED....

- **HISTORY**

To better understand the success of the Fish 'n Flush, a brief history of its evolution from test lab fun to a viable product is necessary. The Fish 'n Flush was a simple idea imagined one afternoon in 2005 in the AquaOne testing lab during a design review for our core product, the H2Orb. The AquaOne team (Richard Quintana-CEO, David Parrish-COO, Brian Reel-Director Sales and Marketing, David Millar-Mechanical Designer, and Alfonso Cano-Production Supervisor) was thinking of ways to attract attention at a trade show when the idea of putting goldfish in the clear acrylic H2Orb demo tank was laughingly proposed. The next day, our mechanical designer had a design for a two piece tank and less than 10 days later a working prototype. The tank was left in the shipping box for several months at one of our satellite offices. As a small joke, we "unveiled" the unit at a show and tell meeting with the president, vice president of engineering and vice president of marketing a worldwide plumbing supply company. The Fish 'n Flush idea was great icebreaker and after the unveiling, we left the fully operational tank in our showroom. Several weeks later we received a phone call from one of the top sensor companys in the world, one of our vendors, who had been by the shop for a sales visit. They wanted to offer us a free booth space at a security trade show in Las Vegas; "Bring the Fish 'n Flush" they asked. This was April 2006.

April 2006 was the first public launch of the Fish 'n Flush Toilet Tank Aquarium. A Fish 'n Flush prototype brought a huge crowd to the booth along with unexpected media attention. We reintroduced the prototype at the Kitchen and Bath International Show, Chigao, later in April. Filming by HGTV, the ABC Morning Show and several local TV stations sent us to the design board to begin development on a serious product. After much research, from the design team came a working toilet tank aquarium which is a retrofit, two- tank system that simply replaces the toilet tank on most two-bolt tank to bowl configuration toilets with a 2 1/2" or smaller flush hole. This configuration comprises the majority to toilets on the market today.

- **THE MOLDS**

The molds for the tanks weight over four tons and require an 80-ton mold machine and special cooling tubes to achieve a high-quality product. The stainless steel molds require five to six weeks of hand polishing to attain the smooth, optically clear finish. Each tank is inspected for workmanship at the factory. Tanks of this size and strength are usually assembled using a variety of methods including hot gluing, fusion, melting and bonding to list a few. Our tanks are single molded pieces with no seams that can separate and break apart. This is the first time a molded piece of this thickness and clarity has been accomplished using these materials.

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The material selection was the most difficult. Molded plastics of the thickness we required with the difficult design were not done. It took multiple iterations and tests to finally find a material (PCTG as described earlier) that was FDA approved, fish save, and moldable in the thickness needed to create a solid feeling product with clarity, rigidity and optical clarity



IMPORTANT: PLEASE READ

Well, if you actually read this far, you may as well order one now if you do not already have one 'cause you know

YOU CANNOT LIVE WITHOUT IT.

So either order from our website, <http://www.FishnFlush.com> , or call 866.598 FISH (3474).
(How is THAT for marketing !!!!!)

Fish 'n Flush

Our Fax number is 714.898.7016 and our local phone number is 714.898.7016. You can also e-mail us at sales@FishnFlush.com, but please place FishnFlush in the subject line so we don't flush your e-mail away with the flotsam and jetsam of spam and junk.

Last of all, visit our corporate website at <http://www.aquaone.com> if you want to know about our company.

