

Dekoline Aquarium Quartz

The top layer of our aquarium substrate hosts besides the well known aesthetic element a very diverse and interesting mix of functional aspects.

Thanks to the unique properties of Aquatic Nature's Dekoline Quartz we can choose our aquarium substrate's top layer without feeling like weighing conflicting requirements.

Aquatic Nature's Dekoline Quartz hosts the combined benefits of both visual and functional excellence, resulting in an easy, reliable and very fast way to come to creative, healthy and harmonious aquatic creations...



The aquarium substrate is a vital part of a beautiful and stable aquarium biotope. This granulated bottom layer in our aquarium forms a complex mix of materials, physical and biochemical processes that actively support the maintaining of a healthy environment for all vegetable and animal life forms within our aquarium biotope.

The importance of using a high quality aquarium gravel within this substrate may not be underestimated. The resulting top layer can be the preferred feeding place or may be the natural breeding place for our precious aquarium inhabitants. The plant's rootlets need to find their way through this gravel, finding macro and micro nutrients provided and interfaced by the rich microbial community in the underlying fertilizer soil of the substrate. Water conditions like pH and hardness should not be influenced by the used gravel. An ideal aquarium gravel should be chemically inert even in rather acidic water conditions, be free of sharp edges and have a constant and optimal grain size.

For all these reasons traditional aquarium gravels, standard construction gravels, washed river sand, outdoor gravel, blasting sand, etc ... should not be our first choice for creating our optimal biotope conditions. All these alternatives may contain lots of substances that are not suited for our aquarium biotope: besides the possible dirt and other contaminants, limestone elements and marble dust can raise the hardness of our aquarium water in an unacceptable way. For that reason traditional aquarium gravels have to be thoroughly washed and even disinfected by cooking. Several rinsing cycles are absolutely mandatory.

With the start of the Dekoline Quartz product range, Aquatic Nature created a completely new market segment of high quality decorative aquarium quartz. Raw quartz granulates are coated with a high tech coating which is certified toxic free (**According DIN/ISO. N° 38415-6**). This inert sealing of the basic material provides the Dekoline Quartz with optimal surface properties and makes it completely pH and KH neutral. The used quartz granulates have carefully selected characteristics to qualify as Dekoline Quartz basis material with the appropriate composition, color, quality, shape and grain size.

All decoration materials which are not certified by aquarium professionals should be tested on their possible adverse influence on water hardness (KH) and pH.

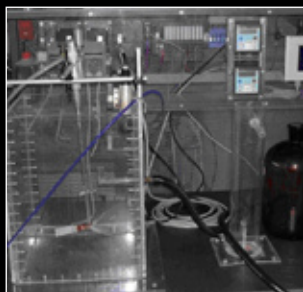


Fig. 1



Fig. 2

In a chemical laboratory gas testing setup using HCl (see fig. 1) we can test the gas production of different gravel samples.

It shows very clearly that construction gravels should be avoided as an aquarium substrate as significant gas production is established, this has a permanent negative (raising) effect on pH and Hardness.

You can see very clearly that with the Dekoline sample there is no gas production at all, confirming the 100% pH and KH neutral properties (see fig 2).

pH and Hardness will never be adversely influenced by Dekoline Quartz.



Traditional aquarium gravel (on the left) vs. **Dekoline Nero** gravel (on the right)



As all good products, Dekoline Quartz have been copied throughout the years but have never been equaled in their outstanding quality, natural color range and perfect color retention guaranteed by the separate coloring and coating process steps.

Dekoline Quartz, unlike traditional aquarium gravels, do not need to be rinsed before use as they do not cause turbidity and do not contain any dirt particles that will go into suspension.

Dekoline Quartz are ready for immediate use and guarantee a direct and optimal result with crystal clear water.

With the Dekoline Quartz product range of coated quartz granulates, Aquatic Nature was able to create a high quality aquarium gravel matching the optimal natural condition where all the contaminants and soluble elements are leached away on a continuous basis by the natural lixiviation.

Besides the unparalleled typical natural biotope colors, some very pure, attractive and decorative colors are available within the Dekoline Quartz product range for the non-biotope and decorative mono-culture aquarium.

Using Dekoline Quartz in specialized nano aquariums gives unlimited possibilities to realize unique creative designs according to your personal taste and preferences.

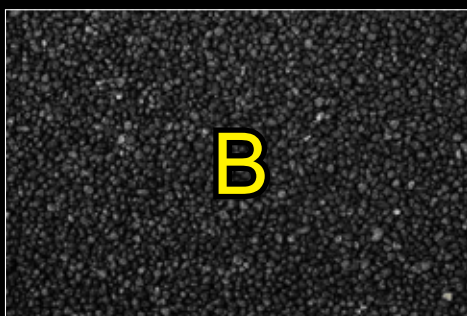
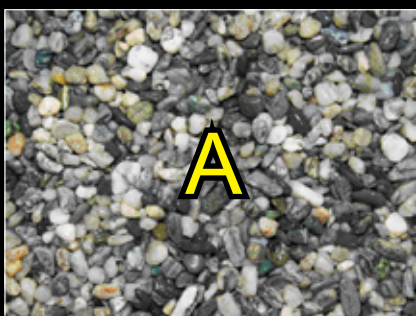
Dekoline Quartz is available in two grain sizes, either 1-2 mm or 2-3 mm. With these well defined and constant grain sizes we can provide all plant roots with an adequate water circulation and plenty of space for further rooting. As the decorative top layer of the aquarium substrate, Dekoline Quartz fulfills a very important aerobic function facilitating the transfer of oxygen and nutrients to the plants roots and underlying micro fauna. This avoids the typical anaerobic black zones inherent to the slitting up of the substrate.

The constant grain size makes it particularly easy to regularly and thoroughly remove all the organic waste by gravel vacuuming, resulting in a clean and healthy substrate.

Aquarium with discus fish decorated with a layer of **Dekoline Flame**



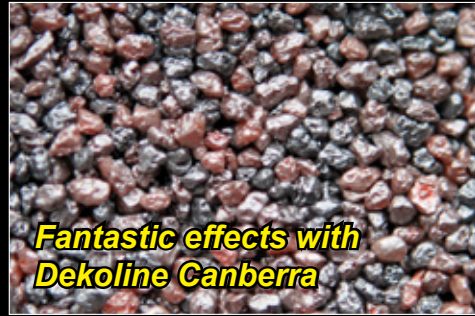
Evolution Aquarium decorated with **Dekoline Oriental**



Traditional aquarium gravels (**A**) (light-colored river pebbles) have a grain size distribution between 3-8mm. Dekoline offers a constant and optimal grain size as well as an unequalled color rendering.

Dekoline Quartz (**B**) is the preferred and most versatile material to create a healthy and decorative aquarium substrate top layer.

The high tech and inert coating of the basic material provides the Dekoline Quartz with unique surface properties. Dekoline Quartz has no sharp edges and is therefore harmless to all kinds of fish, including bottom breeders and feeders, loaches and snails.



Some traditional aquarium gravels (on the left) are not characterized by the smooth surface typical for the Dekoline Quartz granulate. Dekoline Quartz (on the right) has no sharp edges and provides good anchoring surface for rootlets.

This makes it completely safe for all ground dwelling fish.

The Dekoline granulate surface provides a good anchoring surface for all water plant rootlets. Thanks to the optimized grain size, root volume can grow to their full potential resulting in flourishing aquarium plants and transferring the substrate in a stable biological environment that provides long term stability to the biotope. Beneficial bacteria also make intensive use of the granulate surface as a substrate.

Superior adherence of rootlets to the surface of the Dekoline Quartz granulate (on the left)



The legendary root growth in the Dekoline Quartz (on the right) results in a healthy aquarium substrate and ravishing aquarium plants.

For planted aquariums the long term stability of the substrate and the persistent growth of the plants is significantly favored by the application of a complete aquarium substrate fertilizer and conditioner as a bottom layer. Aquatic Nature's Fertiplant ABF, with its Active Biological Formula, is an excellent and scientifically proven product with an unequalled mineral and biological composition.

Setting up an aquarium with Aquatic Nature's Dekoline will give you a fast and excellent result. Aquatic Nature's Dekoline gives you the tools to easily create naturally looking biotopes as well as decorative aquarium settings with unparalleled creative possibilities.

Once you've set up an aquarium with Aquatic Nature's Dekoline Quartz you will never again underestimate the aquarium gravel as a vital component of the substrate for the flourishing, decorative and robust character of the entire aquarium.

The logo for Aquatic Nature. It features a stylized blue wave above the word "Aquatic" in white, and the word "Nature" in blue with a registered trademark symbol (®).