



Unpacking Instructions:

1. Open the box by peeling the tape or making only a very shallow cut. The fish bag is very close to the top of the box so make sure not to puncture the bag while opening the box.
2. Keep bags out of direct sunlight.
3. Float un-opened bags for 20-30 minutes to equalize temperature.
4. Do not open bags and add water from your pond or quarantine tank to the bag! (See important note below)
5. After the temperature equalizes open the bags and pour fish and water into a separate clean tub or bowl. Dip fish into tank with a clean net or you can carefully use your clean hand.
6. Do NOT put dirty shipping water into your quarantine tank or pond.

We recommend maintaining the salinity levels in your quarantine tank at 3-5 pounds of non-iodized salt per 100 gallons as a prophylactic measure. This level of salt will kill ornamental plants in your pond, do not add salt if your pond has live plants.

DO NOT mix our fish, when in quarantine, with those from other Koi farms, pet shops etc... That way if during the recommended quarantine time you see a problem you know where those fish came from, and it just makes it easier for us to help you.

Maintain fish at 70 degrees or higher for best results. (82 or higher is best for healing)

Cover tanks, as new fish are prone to jumping.

Quarantine fish for 7-10 days prior to moving them to your pond. This is only a recommendation but please be aware that if you don't quarantine your new fish and just put them directly into your tank or pond with an established school of fish and something develops, we cannot be held responsible for any losses.

We recommend feeding your fish Blackwater Premium Koi & Goldfish Food for optimum growth and color development.

AN IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT WATER EXCHANGE DURING ACCLIMATION: You may have purchased fish from a local pet store or garden center, in the past, and you were advised to open the bag and add a small amount of water from your pond or tank to acclimate your fish to their new homes water quality. In situations where a small number of fish had been in a bag for a short amount of time (transported from the store back to your home) this is perfectly acceptable. It is NOT advised after receiving fish that have been shipped to you via overnight express carrier.

During shipping the water accumulates two waste products from the fish, ammonia, and carbon dioxide. Although high levels of carbon dioxide can be worrisome, in a pond, it is of great benefit in a shipping container as it helps keep the pH low. This lowering of the pH keeps the high levels of ammonia in the shipping water in the ionized, non-toxic form. If the bag is opened during the acclimation process the CO₂ begins to blow off raising the pH and changing the ammonia to the much more toxic form. If water is added to the bag this will almost assuredly raise the pH as well. This can and often causes great stress in your new fish and can cause gill damage!