



ACCIDENTALLY OVERFED

A large amount of food entered the aquarium and some of it is already sinking or trapped.

REMOVE WHAT YOU CAN. TEST WHAT YOU CANNOT SEE.

AT A GLANCE

REMOVE **TARGET THE SPILL**
Net, baster, siphon, or gravel vacuum.

0 **STOP FEEDING**
Do not add to the waste load.

O2 **PROTECT OXYGEN**
Keep flow and surface movement strong.

TEST **CHECK WATER**
Ammonia and nitrite now and later.

OVERFEEDING RESCUE - DO THIS IN ORDER

1 **REMOVE ACCESSIBLE FOOD**
Target the spill with a net, turkey baster, siphon, or gravel vacuum. Do not cloud the tank chasing every crumb.

2 **STOP FEEDING**
Pause food for now. Do not replace a missed meal or double-feed tomorrow.

3 **PROTECT OXYGEN AND FLOW**
Increase surface movement if fish breathe faster. Clear a blocked intake while keeping biological media wet and protected.

4 **TEST BEFORE DECIDING**
Test ammonia and nitrite. Record nitrate, temperature, pH, and the time of the spill when available.

5 **ACT ON EVIDENCE**
Safe tests and normal fish may justify monitoring. Detected toxins or distress call for a controlled, conditioned correction.

6 **MONITOR 24 HOURS**
Keep aeration and filtration strong. Retest ammonia and nitrite. Resume feeding only after stability returns.

DO NOT DO THIS

- ✗ Do not reset the whole tank.
- ✗ Do not automatically make a huge water change.
- ✗ Do not replace biological filter media.
- ✗ Do not feed again because fish look hungry.
- ✗ Do not medicate a feeding accident.
- ✗ Do not assume the risk ended when food disappeared.

SIGNS YOU MAY SEE

- Food on substrate
- Cloudy water
- Stronger odor
- Fast breathing
- Blocked intake
- Several fish affected

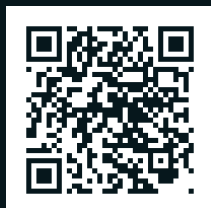
DBC RESCUE METHOD

Stop › Observe › Test › Diagnose › Act › Monitor › Prevent

EMERGENCY TARGETS

Ammonia	0 ppm
Nitrite	0 ppm
Filter	Normal flow; biology protected.
Next 24 h	Retest and watch breathing/odor.

SCAN FOR FULL GUIDE



dbcaquatics.com/overfeeding-rescue

GET EXPERT HELP IF...

- Fish gasp, collapse, or lose balance.
- Ammonia or nitrite is detected.
- Cloudiness, odor, or distress keeps increasing.

Contact an aquatic veterinarian when distress is severe or continuing.