



FISH DYING OVERNIGHT

Everything looked normal yesterday, but one or more fish are dead and the cause is not obvious.

INVESTIGATE THE SHARED TANK BEFORE MEDICATION.

AT A GLANCE

1

REMOVE LOSSES

Take out dead fish and visible decay.

O2

ADD OXYGEN

Protect every surviving fish first.

TEST

CHECK THE TANK

Ammonia, nitrite, nitrate, temperature.

48H

FIND THE CHANGE

Review the last two days as evidence.

FIRST RESCUE - DO THIS IN ORDER

1

REMOVE DEAD FISH

Remove losses and obvious decay so they do not add more waste while you investigate.

2

INCREASE OXYGEN

Aim the filter return upward, add an air stone, and confirm the filter is moving the surface.

3

TEST AND RECORD

Test ammonia, nitrite, nitrate, and temperature. Write down the results; clear water is not proof of safe water.

4

ONE FISH OR SEVERAL?

Several fish changing together points to shared water or oxygen first. One fish alone may need an individual health path.

5

REVIEW THE LAST 48 HOURS

Check new fish, feeding, water changes, filter work, power, heat, conditioner, medication, and hidden decay.

6

MAKE ONE MEASURED CORRECTION

Act on the evidence, protect the biological filter, monitor survivors, and retest before adding another treatment.

DO NOT DO THIS

- ✗ Do not medicate blindly.
- ✗ Do not replace every filter cartridge.
- ✗ Do not tear the aquarium down.
- ✗ Do not add replacement fish yet.
- ✗ Do not make five major changes at once.
- ✗ Do not assume clear water means safe water.

SIGNS YOU MAY SEE

- Several fish affected
- Fast breathing
- Surface hanging
- Weak schooling
- Color loss
- One fish separated

DBC RESCUE METHOD

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

EMERGENCY TARGETS

Ammonia	0 ppm
Nitrite	0 ppm
Temperature	Species range. Avoid rapid change.
Pattern	Several fish = shared environment first.

SCAN FOR FULL GUIDE



dbcaquatics.com/tetras-overnight

GET EXPERT HELP IF...

- Losses continue after water correction.
- Fish collapse or cannot stay upright.
- Severe distress persists with safe water tests.

Contact an aquatic veterinarian when distress is severe or continuing.