



COMMUNITY CLASSIC

Neon Tetra

Paracheirodon innesi

Brilliant iridescent blue and red schooling tetra from the Upper Amazon. Peaceful, hardy, and dazzling — a community-aquarium classic. Keep in groups of 8 or more.

CARE LEVEL	MIN TANK	TEMPERATURE	PH	GROUP
Easy	10 gallons (~40 L)	72-78 °F (22-26 °C)	5.5-7.0	8+ recommended

OVERVIEW

The Neon Tetra (*Paracheirodon innesi*) is among the most recognisable freshwater fish in the world, and for good reason. A horizontal band of electric blue runs the length of the body, met by a brilliant red stripe along the rear half — colours that intensify as a tightly-knit shoal moves together through a planted tank. Peaceful, inexpensive, and hardy once established, it remains the benchmark community fish.

NATURAL HABITAT

Neon Tetras originate in the soft, slow-moving blackwater and clearwater streams of the Upper Amazon basin in Peru, Colombia, and Brazil. These shaded waters are stained with tannins from leaf litter, soft, acidic, and dimly lit beneath dense rainforest canopy.



VIEW ONLINE

Scan for the full Neon Tetra listing

Live price, current stock, and our Live Arrival Guarantee:

jojoaquatics.com/products/neon-tetra

TANK SETUP

A 10-gallon (~40 L) aquarium is the practical minimum for a starter shoal, though longer tanks show off their schooling far better. Plant densely, leave open swimming lanes down the middle, and use a dark substrate to bring out their colour. Gentle filtration and subdued lighting suit them best.

DIET

An easy-going omnivore. Offer a quality micro-pellet or crushed flake as the staple, supplemented several times a week with frozen or live daphnia, baby brine shrimp, and micro-worm. Small mouths mean small foods.

WATER PARAMETERS

Temperature: 72–78 °F (22–26 °C). pH: 5.5–7.0. GH: 1–10 dGH (soft to moderately soft). Stability matters more than chasing exact targets — keep the water clean, well-cycled, and consistent. Add Neons only to a fully matured tank; they are sensitive to the swings of a new setup.

TEMPERAMENT & TANKMATES

Thoroughly peaceful and best kept in groups of 8 or more — the larger the shoal, the more confident and colourful the display. Ideal companions are other small, calm community species: Cardinal and Ember Tetras, Rasboras, Corydoras, Otocinclus, and dwarf shrimp. Avoid large or boisterous tankmates that may see a Neon as a meal.

BREEDING

Breeding is possible but exacting. A separate, very soft, acidic tank kept dimly lit triggers spawning; eggs and fry are light-sensitive and require near-darkness for the first days. Most keepers enjoy Neons as a shoal rather than a breeding project.

HEALTH & ACCLIMATION

Hardy once acclimated, but quarantine every new arrival for 2–4 weeks and drip-acclimate slowly over 45–60 minutes. Avoid the cheapest mass-bred stock, which can carry the so-called 'Neon Tetra Disease'.



APPROXIMATE SHIPPING SIZE

Neon Tetras ship at approximately 0.5–0.75 inch (1.5–2 cm). Adult size is approximately 1.2–1.5 inch (3–4 cm). All orders are covered by our Live Arrival Guarantee.

TECHNICAL DATA

Family	Characidae
Origin	Upper Amazon (Peru, Colombia, Brazil)
Bred	Captive Bred
Care	Easy
Adult size	1.2–1.5 in (3–4 cm)
Min tank	10 gallons (~40 L)
Lifespan	5–8 years
Temperament	Peaceful, shoaling
Diet	Omnivore
pH	5.5–7.0
Temperature	72–78 °F (22–26 °C)
GH	1–10 dGH
Group	8+ recommended

FROM OUR KNOWLEDGE BASE

Water chemistry essentials

- **Cycle first.** Add livestock only to a fully cycled, matured tank — ammonia and nitrite at 0, nitrate kept low with weekly water changes.
- **GH & KH.** General hardness feeds livestock; carbonate hardness buffers pH. Match the ranges in the table above rather than chasing a single number.
- **Stability over targets.** Most freshwater species adapt to a wider range than the internet suggests, as long as water is clean, stable, and well-cycled.

Drip acclimation, step by step

1. Float the sealed bag 15–20 min to match temperature.
2. Open into a clean container; start a slow drip from your tank.
3. Drip over 45–60 min until the volume roughly triples.
4. Net the fish into the tank — never pour bag water in.
5. Quarantine new arrivals 2–4 weeks before adding to a display tank.

Live Arrival Guarantee. Every order is packed with a heat or cool pack as the forecast requires and arrives healthy, or we make it right. Photograph any loss within 2 hours of delivery and email help@jojoaquatics.com.

— The JoJo Aquatics team, Key West, Florida


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SCAN TO SHOP

jojoaquatics.com/products/neon-tetra

CARE LEVEL

Easy

MIN TANK

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TEMPERATURE

72–78 °F (22–26 °C)

PH

5.5–7.0

GROUP

8+ recommended

KEEPING ESSENTIALS

- Keep a shoal of 8 or more in a densely planted 10-gallon (~40 L) or larger tank.
- Soft, slightly acidic water — 72–78 °F (22–26 °C), pH 5.5–7.0, GH 1–10 dGH.
- Feed quality micro-pellet or crushed flake, plus frozen daphnia and baby brine shrimp.
- Peaceful — pair with tetras, rasboras, Corydoras, Otocinclus, and dwarf shrimp.
- Add only to a matured, fully-cycled tank; quarantine and drip-acclimate every arrival.

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ACCLIMATION IN BRIEF

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