

## TARARIUM IX-120-UV5+120BULB

# TARARIUM IX-120-UV5+120BULB Aquarium Filter User Manual

Model: IX-120-UV5+120BULB

## 1. INTRODUCTION

---

This manual provides instructions for the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of your TARARIUM IX-120-UV5+120BULB Aquarium Filter. This internal filter is designed for use in aquariums ranging from 30 to 75 gallons, providing multi-stage filtration and a detachable UV light for water clarification and odor reduction. Please read these instructions thoroughly before use to ensure optimal performance and safety.



*Image 1.1: The TARARIUM IX-120-UV5+120BULB Aquarium Filter, showcasing its waterfall output and the separate UV sterilization unit.*

## 2. PRODUCT OVERVIEW AND COMPONENTS

The TARARIUM IX-120-UV5+120BULB filter features a comprehensive filtration system designed to maintain clear and healthy aquatic environments. Key features include:

- **Detachable UV Light:** A 254nm UV light efficiently reduces odor and eradicates green water.
- **Multi-Stage Filtration:** Combines mechanical and biological filtration for superior water quality.
- **Adjustable Water Flow:** Allows customization of water output to suit different aquarium needs.
- **Low Water Level Operation:** Designed to function effectively with a minimum water level of 2.6 inches.
- **Easy Maintenance:** Convenient top lid canister for quick media cleaning and replacement.
- **Waterfall Design:** Aids in water aeration.

### 2.1 Filtration Stages

This filter utilizes a 4-stage filtration process:

1. **Stage 1 (UV Light):** The detachable 254nm UV light targets odor reduction and green water eradication.
2. **Stage 2 & 3 (Mechanical Filtration):** Dense, double-sided (white & black) mesh sponge clips filter out debris, fish waste, food residue, plant leaves, and fine particles.
3. **Stage 4 (Biological Filtration):** Bio-balls provide a large surface area and open porosity to absorb odor, discoloration, and break down waste, improving water quality.



Image 2.1: Visual representation of the filter's 4-stage filtration system, detailing the placement of the UV light, filter cotton, and media cartridge with bio-balls.

# Multiple-Stage Rapid Water Purification



Image 2.2: Illustration demonstrating the improvement in water clarity after using the filter, highlighting the filter cotton and media cartridge.

## 3. SETUP INSTRUCTIONS

Follow these steps to properly set up your TARARIUM IX-120-UV5+120BULB filter:

1. **Unpack Components:** Carefully remove all components from the packaging. Verify that all parts are present: filter unit, detachable UV light, filter media (sponge, bio-balls), and suction cups.
2. **Install Filter Media:** Open the top lid of the filter canister. Insert the mesh sponge and bio-balls into their designated compartments as shown in the product diagrams. Ensure they are seated correctly for optimal flow.
3. **Attach Suction Cups:** Secure the suction cups to the back of the filter unit.
4. **Position Filter:** Place the filter inside your aquarium, ensuring it is fully submerged. The minimum water level required for operation is 2.6 inches (approximately 6.6 cm). Use the suction cups to firmly attach the filter to the aquarium wall.
5. **Install UV Light (Optional):** If using the UV light, carefully insert it into its designated slot within the filter unit. Ensure it is securely connected. The UV light is IP68 waterproof.
6. **Connect Power:** Plug the filter's power cord into a suitable electrical outlet. Ensure a drip loop is formed

to prevent water from traveling along the cord to the outlet.



*Image 3.1: The filter operating in an aquarium, demonstrating its ability to function effectively at a minimum water level of 2.6 inches.*



Image 3.2: A visual guide to the submersible UV sterilization unit, highlighting its waterproof design and function in killing bacteria, removing odor, purifying water, and removing algae.

## 4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Once the filter is set up and plugged in, it will begin operating. Observe the water flow to ensure proper function.

### 4.1 Adjusting Water Flow

The filter features an adjustable knob to control the water flow rate. Rotate the knob located on the top of the filter to increase or decrease the flow as needed for your aquarium inhabitants and setup.



*Image 4.1: An illustration detailing the adjustable water flow feature, the easy access for maintenance, and the secure strong suction cups for mounting.*

## **4.2 Water Circulation**

The waterfall design promotes water circulation and aeration, which is beneficial for the aquatic environment. The 360° powerful bottom suction inlet ensures comprehensive water intake for efficient filtration.

# Fast & Superior Purification

Green algae cannot be removed by using only this filter.

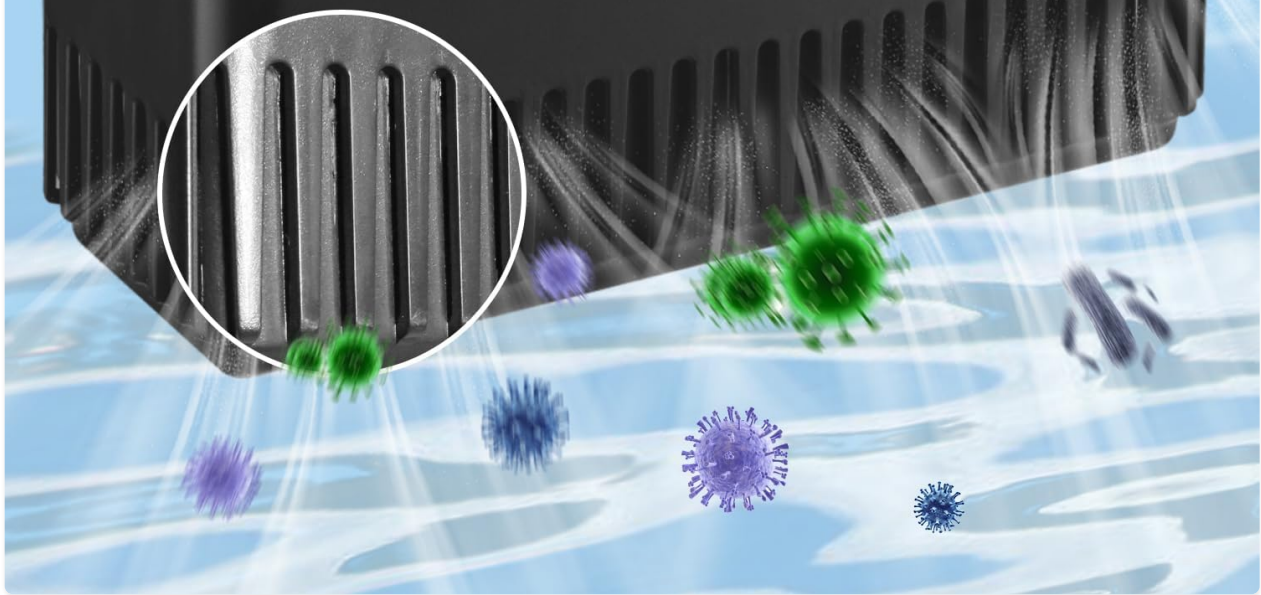


Image 4.2: Depiction of water circulation within an aquarium facilitated by the filter, alongside a comparison of water clarity before and after filtration.

# 360° Powerful Bottom Suction Water Inlet

**Stable & sufficient water flow  
Fast water purification**

**Two-tier: Fish Safe**



*Image 4.3: A detailed view of the filter's 360° powerful bottom suction water inlet, designed for stable and sufficient water flow and fast purification.*

## 5. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance is crucial for the longevity and efficiency of your filter. Always unplug the filter from the power source before performing any maintenance.

### 5.1 Cleaning/Replacing Filter Media

1. **Access Media:** Open the top lid of the filter canister.
2. **Clean Sponge:** Remove the mesh sponge. Rinse it thoroughly with old aquarium water (not tap water, as chlorine can kill beneficial bacteria) to remove accumulated debris. If the sponge is heavily soiled or degraded, replace it.
3. **Inspect Bio-balls:** Check the bio-balls for any blockages. Rinse them gently with old aquarium water if necessary. Avoid aggressive cleaning to preserve beneficial bacteria.
4. **Reassemble:** Place the cleaned or new filter media back into the canister and securely close the lid.

It is recommended to clean the filter media every 2-4 weeks, depending on the bioload of your aquarium. Replace filter sponges every 1-3 months, or as needed.

## 5.2 UV Light Maintenance

The UV light bulb has a limited lifespan and its effectiveness diminishes over time. It is recommended to replace the UV bulb every 6-12 months for optimal performance. When replacing, ensure the filter is unplugged and handle the new bulb carefully, avoiding direct contact with the glass to prevent oil transfer from skin.

## 6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your filter, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Filter not running / No water flow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Not plugged in</li><li>• Power outage</li><li>• Impeller jammed or dirty</li><li>• Insufficient water level</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Check power connection.</li><li>• Restore power.</li><li>• Unplug, remove impeller cover, clean impeller and shaft.</li><li>• Ensure water level is above 2.6 inches.</li></ul>
Reduced water flow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clogged filter media</li><li>• Dirty impeller</li><li>• Adjustable flow knob set too low</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clean or replace filter media.</li><li>• Clean impeller.</li><li>• Adjust flow knob to a higher setting.</li></ul>
Cloudy water / Green water persists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Filter media saturated</li><li>• UV light not working or old</li><li>• Overfeeding / High bioload</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clean or replace filter media more frequently.</li><li>• Check UV light connection, replace bulb if old.</li><li>• Reduce feeding, perform water changes.</li></ul>
Unusual noise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Impeller obstructed or damaged</li><li>• Air trapped in filter</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Unplug, clean impeller and check for damage.</li><li>• Gently shake filter to release trapped air.</li></ul>

## 7. SPECIFICATIONS

- **Model:** IX-120-UV5+120BULB
- **Brand:** TARARIUM
- **Recommended Tank Size:** 30-75 Gallons
- **Minimum Water Level:** 2.6 inches (6.6 cm)
- **Filtration Stages:** 4 (UV, Mechanical Sponge, Biological Bio-balls)
- **UV Light Wavelength:** 254nm
- **Water Flow:** Adjustable
- **Noise Level:** Approximately 40dB (sound of water)

## 8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information or technical support, please refer to the product packaging or contact TARARIUM

customer service directly. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase.  
For further assistance, you may visit the [TARARIUM Store on Amazon](#).

© 2025 TARARIUM. All rights reserved.