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## AQQA GUS-AQ178

# AQQA Aquarium Protein Skimmer Instruction Manual (Model GUS-AQ178)

For Saltwater Fish Tanks, 50-80 Gallons

## INTRODUCTION

The AQQA Aquarium Protein Skimmer is designed to efficiently remove organic waste, proteins, and impurities from saltwater, reef, and marine fish tanks. This process helps maintain crystal clear and healthy water conditions for your aquatic life. This manual provides comprehensive instructions for proper installation, operation, and maintenance of your protein skimmer.

## SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

- Always disconnect power before performing any maintenance or installation.
- Ensure hands are dry when plugging or unplugging the unit.
- Do not operate if the power cord or plug is damaged.
- This appliance is intended for indoor use only.
- Keep out of reach of children.
- Ensure the skimmer is securely mounted to prevent accidental displacement.

## PRODUCT OVERVIEW AND COMPONENTS

The AQQA Protein Skimmer (Model GUS-AQ178) is a high-efficiency unit designed for aquariums ranging from 50 to 80 gallons. It features a compact design, adjustable height, and transparent body for easy monitoring.

### Key Features:

- High-Efficiency Protein Skimming: Generates dense micro-bubbles to remove organic waste, proteins, and impurities.
- Adjustable Height: Allows for optimal placement in various tank sizes (50-80 gallons).
- Compact Design: Space-saving, suitable for nano tanks, reef tanks, and other marine systems.
- Transparent Body: Enables easy monitoring of foam production and waste collection.
- Adjustable Flow & Overflow Protection: Fine-tune water flow and prevents spills.

### Component Identification:

# Protein Skimmer Working Principle

Removes dissolved organic waste before it turns into harmful substances



**Image:** This diagram illustrates the internal components and the protein skimming process. Air and water mix (Step 1) to form microbubbles, organic waste binds to these bubbles (Step 2), and waste is collected in the foam cup (Step 3).

The image above details the protein skimmer's working principle, showing how air and water mix to form microbubbles, which then bind to organic waste and collect in the foam cup.

## SETUP INSTRUCTIONS

Follow these steps for proper installation of your AQQA Protein Skimmer.

### Step 1: Initial Assembly

1. Attach the suction cups or mounting bracket to the skimmer body. Ensure they are securely fastened.
2. Connect the air pipe to the regulating valve on the skimmer.
3. Insert the pump into the designated slot at the bottom of the skimmer.
4. Place the filter sponge into the skimmer body.
5. Assemble the collection cup onto the top of the skimmer body.

# Installation Tips



**Image:** This image provides visual guidance for installation, including hanging the bracket, adjusting the internal pole, setting the valve, and fine-tuning the air hose.

The image above illustrates the installation process, from hanging the bracket to adjusting the air hose for optimal performance.

## Step 2: Placement in Aquarium

- Hang the skimmer on the inside of your aquarium using the bracket.
- Adjust the height of the protein skimmer so that the water level is between the MIN and MAX marks indicated on the unit. Optimal filtration requires the water level to be maintained within this range.
- Ensure the motor is fully immersed in water when in use. The air pipe should be exposed above the water surface to prevent water from entering the air pump.





**Image:** The protein skimmer is shown installed in an aquarium, demonstrating proper placement and integration with the aquatic environment.

This image shows the skimmer correctly positioned within an aquarium, highlighting its compact size and transparent design.

### Step 3: Connecting the Air Pipe

Connect the air pipe to the regulating valve. Ensure the air pipe is exposed above the water surface to prevent water from entering the air pump.

Your browser does not support the video tag.

**Video:** This video demonstrates the initial setup of a mini protein skimmer, including securing it to the aquarium and adjusting the collection cup and flow control knob. This video is a preview, but it shows the general setup process.

This video provides a visual guide for the initial setup, including securing the skimmer and adjusting its components.

## OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Once installed, the protein skimmer is ready for operation. Adjustments may be necessary to achieve optimal performance.

### Adjusting Water Flow and Skimate Production

- Plug in the skimmer. It will begin to draw water and produce bubbles.
- Adjust the flow control knob to regulate the amount of skimate produced. For initial setup, open the dial fully.
- Adjust the collection cup and O-ring so that bubbles reach the top of the side channel but do not overflow into the collection cup immediately.
- Run the skimmer for several hours. If no skimate is collected, gradually close the control dial until skimate begins to fill the collection cup.



**Image:** The skimmer in action, demonstrating the generation of dense micro-bubbles and the collection of waste in the foam cup, indicating effective filtration.

This image shows the skimmer effectively removing organic waste, with foam accumulating in the collection cup.

### MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS



Regular maintenance is crucial for the longevity and optimal performance of your protein skimmer. It is recommended to clean the skimmer at least once every 2-3 weeks.

1. Disconnect the skimmer from power.
2. Pull out the collection cup upwards, pour out the foamy effluent inside, and rinse it thoroughly with water.
3. Remove the brackets and carefully detach the skimmer from the aquarium.
4. Disassemble the skimmer components, including the pump and filter sponge. Rinse the motor thoroughly and clean the filter sponge.
5. Reassemble all components after cleaning.

## Maintenance Tips

For optimal filtration, it is recommended to clean at least once every 2-3 weeks



**Image:** This image illustrates the maintenance steps, from emptying and rinsing the collection cup to disassembling and cleaning the pump and filter sponge.

The image above visually guides you through the cleaning process for the skimmer.

### Pump Disassembly and Cleaning Video:

Your browser does not support the video tag.

**Video:** This video provides a detailed guide on how to disassemble and clean the water pump component of an aquarium filter, which is applicable to the skimmer's pump for thorough maintenance.

This video demonstrates the disassembly and cleaning of a water pump, which is a key component of your protein skimmer, ensuring proper maintenance.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No bubbles or insufficient bubbles	Air intake blocked, pump clogged, water level too low/high.	Check and clear air intake. Clean pump impeller. Adjust skimmer height to correct water level.
Skimmer overflowing	Water level too high, air intake too open, new tank syndrome.	Lower skimmer height. Adjust flow control knob to reduce air. Allow new tanks to cycle.
Excessive microbubbles in tank	Skimmer not broken in, water level too low, air intake too high.	Allow 1-2 weeks for break-in period. Raise skimmer height slightly. Adjust air intake.
Pump not running	No power, impeller jammed, damaged pump.	Check power connection. Disassemble and clean impeller. Replace pump if damaged.

SPECIFICATIONS

Attribute	Value
Model	GUS-AQ178
Brand	AQQA
Power Source	Corded Electric
Material	Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene (ABS)
Product Dimensions	22 x 5 x 8 cm
Item Weight	689 g
Max Aquarium Size	50-80 Gallons
Max Flow Rate	79.25 GPH
Max Power	3.5W
Voltage/Frequency	AC 100-120V/60Hz

# Product Specification



**Image:** This image provides a summary of the product specifications, including dimensions and performance metrics.

The image above visually presents the key technical specifications of the AQQA Protein Skimmer.








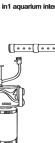

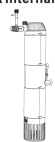
## WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information or technical support, please refer to the product packaging or contact AQQA customer service directly. Keep your purchase receipt for warranty claims.

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**Related Documents - GUS-AQ178**



<div><p><b>AQ178 USER MANUAL</b> AQQA Internal Mini Protein Skimmer</p><p>An ideal protein skimmer for nano tanks, designed to be installed inside aquariums with a maximum flow rate for optimal performance. The skimmer is compact and efficient, providing excellent protein skimming performance. It is designed to be installed inside the aquarium, providing a clean and healthy environment for your fish. The skimmer is made of high-quality materials and is easy to maintain. It is a must-have for any nano tank owner.</p></div>	<p><a href="#">AQ178 User Manual - AQQA Aquarium Controller</a></p> <p>User manual for the AQQA AQ178 Aquarium Controller, detailing setup, operation, and features for easier fish keeping.</p>
<div><p><b>AQ158 USER MANUAL</b> AQQA Intelligent Desktop Eco Fish Tank</p><p>AQQA intelligent desktop eco fish tank has an all-in-one design with an ecological water circulation system to ensure optimum water quality. The fish tank also has automatic light illumination system to ensure maximum growth of the fish. The fish tank is made of high-quality materials and is easy to maintain. It is a must-have for any desktop fish tank owner.</p></div>	<p><a href="#">AQQA AQ158 Intelligent Desktop Eco Fish Tank User Manual</a></p> <p>Comprehensive user manual for the AQQA AQ158 Intelligent Desktop Eco Fish Tank, detailing product features, display panel operation, installation, maintenance, safety precautions, warranty, and disposal information.</p>
<div><p><b>AQ153 USER MANUAL</b> AQQA Aquarium Air-driven Biochemical Sponge Filter</p><p>This filter is driven by air and is installed in the aquarium and features high flow rate and fine filtration. It is made of high-quality materials and is easy to maintain. It is a must-have for any aquarium owner.</p></div>	<p><a href="#">AQQA AQ153 Aquarium Air-Driven Biochemical Sponge Filter User Manual</a></p> <p>User manual for the AQQA AQ153 Aquarium Air-Driven Biochemical Sponge Filter, detailing product features, specifications, assembly instructions, warranty information, and disposal guidelines.</p>
<div><p><b>AQ075 USER MANUAL</b> AQQA 4 in 1 aquarium internal filter</p><p>AQQA 4 in 1 aquarium internal filter is designed to be installed inside the aquarium. It provides excellent filtration and is easy to maintain. It is a must-have for any aquarium owner.</p></div>	<p><a href="#">AQQA AQ075 4-in-1 Aquarium Internal Filter User Manual</a></p> <p>User manual for the AQQA AQ075 series 4-in-1 aquarium internal filter, providing details on features, specifications, installation, operation, maintenance, troubleshooting, warranty, and contact information.</p>
<div><p><b>AQ155 USER MANUAL</b> AQQA Internal Filter</p><p>This AQQA internal filter is designed with an elegant circular structure and a fine mesh filter. It is made of high-quality materials and is easy to maintain. It is a must-have for any aquarium owner.</p></div>	<p><a href="#">AQQA AQ155 Internal Filter User Manual</a></p> <p>User manual for the AQQA AQ155 Internal Filter, detailing product features, installation, usage, specifications, safety precautions, and warranty information.</p>



MINI DESKTOP FISH TANK  
USER MANUAL AQ030



Thank you for choosing AQQA products. The AQQA mini desktop fish tank is one of the most high-quality fish tanks for desktop use in home decoration, office or gifts.

ATTENTION: Gravel, fish, plants and decor are not included.

[AQQA AQ030 Mini Desktop Fish Tank User Manual](#)

User manual for the AQQA AQ030 mini desktop fish tank, detailing product features, setup instructions, troubleshooting, maintenance, specifications, cautions, and warranty information.