

Tank Loading

(or, How Many Fish Can I Put into a Show Tank)

By Dick Roemer

Over the years MAKC has developed a method of estimating the fish load or biomass in a show tank. The method we use is called "fish points" and are a conservative but rough approximation, based on the average size of each size category.

Each Koi under 8" (Size 1) counts as 0.3 fish points.

Each Koi 8-12" (Size 2) counts as 1 fish point.

Each Koi 12-16" (Size 3) counts as 2 fish points.

Each Koi 16-20" (Size 4) counts as 5 fish points.

Each Koi 20-24" (Size 5) counts as 8 fish points.

Each Koi over 24" (Size 6) counts as 12 fish points.

Each Koi over 28" (Size 7) counts as 18 fish points.

Total up all the fish points for the koi you are entering and determine the number of show tanks you will need.

A six-foot diameter tank should not contain more than 20 fish points, 25 at a maximum.

An eight-foot diameter tank should not contain more than 35 fish points, 45 at a maximum.

