

# PROGRAMMABLE AQUARIUM HEATER

For 25W, 50W, 100W,  
150W and 300W

Item# AH-25, AH-50, AH-100,  
AH-150 and AH-300

## INSTRUCTIONS

Congratulations on your purchase of **ZOO MED'S PROGRAMMABLE AQUARIUM HEATER!** The following instructions will assist you with the proper set-up and operation of this unit. Please read all instructions carefully. If you have any questions regarding these instructions or the proper use of this item, please contact our customer service department at [zoomed@zoomed.com](mailto:zoomed@zoomed.com) or by calling (888) 496-6633 (US and Canada only). Customers in other countries, please call (805) 542-9988.



### FEATURES:

- **DIGITAL TEMPERATURE DISPLAY** indicates the current water temperature, acting as both a heater and a thermometer.
- **SAFETY:** The **AQUARIUM HEATER** will automatically shut off if removed from water.
- **PROGRAMMABLE:** features an adjustable temperature range of 68-93°F (20-34°C).

### INSTRUCTIONS:

Carefully inspect the heater for signs of damage. Pay close attention to the heating element and glass casing around the heating element. If damage is observed or suspected, **DO NOT USE.** Contact Zoo Med's customer service department.

### HEATER INSTALLATION:

With the heater unplugged, perform the following steps to install your new **AQUARIUM HEATER.**

- Rinse the heater under running water before placing in your aquarium.
- Place the heater in your aquarium, being sure that it is **FULLY** submerged in water and that the suction cups are securely attached to the wall of the habitat.
- If possible, place the heater near the filter outlet to improve the circulation of the heated water and to achieve even heating throughout the habitat.
- Allow the heater to acclimate to the water temperature for 20 minutes before initial operation.

### HEATER OPERATION:

- After performing the installation steps above, plug the heater into an appropriate GFCI outlet. Be sure to incorporate a drip loop as described and illustrated in figure 1.
- When plugging the heater in, the set temperature will flash briefly on the display. After a few seconds, flashing will stop and the actual water temperature will then be shown on the display. To change the set temperature, press the 'SET' button on the cord until the desired temperature is shown. The display will flash the new set temperature several times before reverting back to displaying the current water temperature.
- When heating, the red indicator light next to the words "ON/OFF" will illuminate. Shortly after reaching the set temperature, the heating element will automatically turn off and the indicator light will go out. When the temperature drops below its set point, heating will resume and the indicator light will turn on.

### SAFETY SHUT-OFF:

- This heater is equipped with a safety shut-off feature that turns the heating element off if the heater is exposed to air. This is accomplished via an air sensor located behind the Zoo Med logo on the front of the heater. If the heater accidentally comes out of the water, or if the water level drops below the level of the sensor, the heating element will shut off and "E1" will flash on the display.
- Normal operation will resume when the heater is again submerged completely in water. Be sure to maintain the appropriate water level in the habitat to prevent this from occurring.
- Periodically check to make sure that the suction cups are securely attached to the side or back wall of the habitat to prevent the heater from coming out of the water.



### MAINTENANCE:

- Periodically inspect the glass heating element for signs of water deposits or algae buildup and clean as needed. To do so, unplug the heater and remove it from your aquarium. Soak it for approximately 20 minutes in equal parts vinegar and water, then scrub gently with a soft-bristle toothbrush. Rinse thoroughly with clean water before replacing it in your tank.
- Check the suction cups often for wear and make sure they are securely attached to the glass in the habitat. Suction cups that have hardened over time may be refreshed by soaking them in equal parts vinegar and water. It is recommended to check the suction cups at regular intervals, for example, during water changes.
- Periodically inspect the heater for any signs of damage. If damage is observed or suspected, unplug and discontinue use immediately.

## IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE!

To reduce the risk of fire, injury, or electric shock, read and follow these instructions prior to operating this heater. Save these instructions for future reference.

### SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS:

- Caution must be taken when using electrical appliances in water. To reduce the risk of injury or electric shock, be sure that the heater is unplugged during any of the following situations:
  - Unplug when installing the heater in your habitat.
  - Unplug when performing habitat maintenance.
  - Unplug before placing your hand(s) in the water of the habitat. Be sure that your hands are completely dry before plugging the heater into an appropriate electrical outlet.
  - Unplug when not in use.
- When unplugging the heater, grasp the plug to prevent damage to the power cord. Never pull on the power cord to unplug the heater.
- **DO NOT** splice, repair, or modify the power cord. Inspect the power cord periodically for damage.
- Plug the heater into a GFCI protected outlet and incorporate a drip loop as described in these instructions.
- If an extension cord is necessary, be sure to use a cord with the appropriate electrical rating.
- The heating element inside this heater is encased in glass. Inspect glass periodically for signs of damage or breakage. Discontinue use immediately if damage is observed or suspected.
- Unplug the heater and allow it to cool before removing it from the water for any reason.
- For indoor use only.
- For use in water in aquatic habitats only.
- Keep children and household pets (other than your aquatic pet(s)) away from the heater.
- Pets can mistake various objects for food. If you observe your pet attempting to bite or chew any part of the heater, including but not limited to the power cord, unplug and discontinue use immediately.
- **DO NOT** alter or modify this product. Contact an electrician if you are unsure about the electrical connection in your house.

### DRIP LOOP:

This heater must be plugged into an appropriate GFCI receptacle with a "drip loop" (see figure 1). The drip loop will prevent water from running along the power cord and getting the plug or wall receptacle wet. To create a drip loop, be sure that a portion of the power cord is lower than the level of the wall receptacle, as shown in figure 1. If for any reason the plug or wall receptacle gets wet, do not grasp or unplug the power cord until after the power has been switched off at the main fuse or circuit breaker.

figure 1

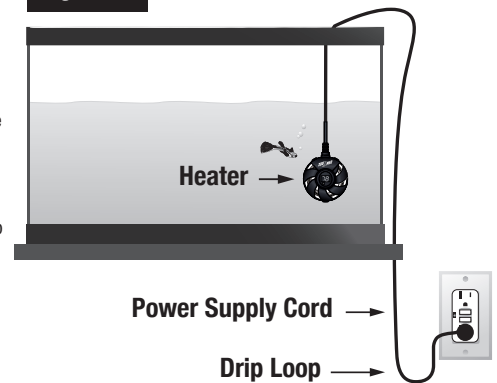


figure 2



### GROUND FAULT PROTECTION:

To reduce the risk of injury or electric shock, this heater must be plugged into a GFCI receptacle (see figure 2). If you are unsure about your electrical supply and connection, contact a qualified licensed electrician.

### ACCESSORIES:

- If desired, the power cord can be held in place using **Zoo Med's Mag Clip**. Simply choose the small clip that fits the power cord, screw it into the magnetic base, and attach to the side or back wall of the habitat.

**Mag Clip**  
Item# MS-1



### WARRANTY:

**Zoo Med Laboratories, Inc. (Zoo Med)** warrants this product to be free of defects in material and workmanship under normal use and service for one year from the date of purchase. The obligation under this warranty is limited to the repair or replacement, at **Zoo Med's** discretion, of the product or any part thereof, when the product is returned to **Zoo Med**, freight prepaid. No claim shall be allowed under this warranty if, in the opinion of **Zoo Med**, this product has been subject to accident or improper usage, including but not limited to: improper storage, accidental dropping, modification, etc. This warranty is in lieu of all other warranties and representations expressed or implied. Please include your receipt, full name, address, phone number, and email address along with a note explaining failure when sending any product back to **Zoo Med**. Please allow 4 to 6 weeks for repair or replacement.

### ZOO MED LABORATORIES, INC.

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