

6 questions to ask *before* buying fish online



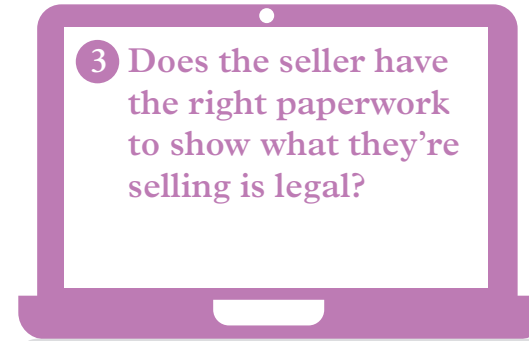
1 Are you buying from a legitimate business?

You don't get the same level of consumer protection if you buy from a member of the public as you do from a bona-fide business.



2 Does the seller have a Pet Shop Licence?

Anyone selling livestock commercially must be checked by their local authority to show they meet certain animal welfare standards.



3 Does the seller have the right paperwork to show what they're selling is legal?

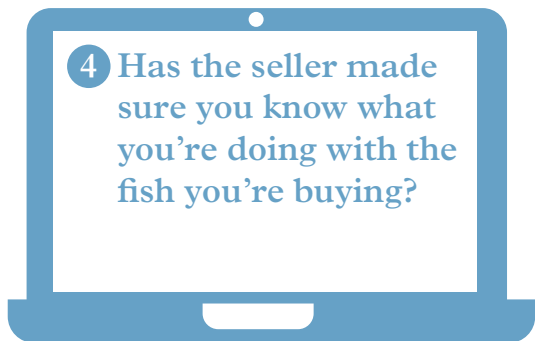
Some fish, plants & corals are illegal to own/sell in the UK & many need the right import paperwork which any seller should be able to provide.

Buying fish is the really exciting bit. So take a trip to your local specialist retailer...

- ▶ You're not 'buying blind'
- ▶ You get instant expert advice
- ▶ Shops with live fish inspire future aquarists in a way the web just can't

Find OATA retailers at www.ornamentalfish.org

Buying fish online needs careful thought · You are buying a living creature · Its welfare is paramount



4 Has the seller made sure you know what you're doing with the fish you're buying?

Beware sellers who don't ask about your set-up. They clearly don't have the fish's welfare at heart.



5 Is the seller using an approved courier to transport your fish with a firm delivery arrangement?

Only approved couriers can transport fish with a firm date & delivery time in place. **Never buy fish from people who use Royal Mail as their transport.** It shows a complete lack of care for the fish.



6 Are they following OATA's *Guide To The Responsible Distance Selling of Livestock?*

The Ornamental Aquatic Trade Association has issued in-depth guidance for responsible sellers to follow to protect the welfare of the fish in transport.



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The voice of the ornamental fish industry

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