

CONTROSAND





CONTROSAND

Cosmetic substrate

A natural substrate custom blended for freshwater aquarium and terrarium use. Made available in various tones and granule sizes to achieve the perfect aquascape, it is safe for fish, invertebrates and reptiles. Use in conjunction with Ultum Nature Systems Controsoil aquarium plant substrate to achieve optimum results.





SKU	SKU	TYPE	VOLUME (L)	GRANULE SIZE	TANK RECOMMENDATION
UNSCSB3	UNSCSB8	BORA	3 / 8	Extra Fine	UNS 45U to UNS 60U or smaller
UNSCSMJ3	UNSCSMJ8	MOJAVE	3 / 8	Extra Fine	UNS 45U to UNS 60U or smaller
UNSCSMU3	UNSCSMU8	MAUI	3 / 8	Extra Fine	UNS 45U to UNS 60U or smaller
UNSCSMC3	UNSCSMC8	MOROCCO	3 / 8	Extra Fine	UNS 45U to UNS 60U or smaller
UNSCSPF3	UNSCSPF8	PACIFICA	3 / 8	Extra Fine	UNS 45U to UNS 60U or smaller
UNSCSMT3	UNSCSMT8	MONTEREY	3 / 8	Normal	UNS 45U to UNS 60U or smaller
UNSCSSF3	UNSCSSF8	SANTA FE	3 / 8	Normal	UNS 45U to UNS 60U or smaller
UNSCSK3	UNSCSK8	KONA	3 / 8	Normal	UNS 45U to UNS 60U or smaller
UNSCST3	UNSCST8	TAHOE	3 / 8	Normal	UNS 45U to UNS 60U or smaller
UNSCSV3	UNSCSV8	VESUVIUS	3 / 8	Normal	UNS 45U to UNS 60U or smaller
UNSCSSQ3	UNSCSSQ8	SEQUOIA	3 / 8	Mixed	UNS 45U to UNS 60U or smaller





CONCEPT

An autumn-themed riverbed aquascape was brought to life using a combination of larger Ghost Wood pieces and rounded Marsh Stones. The natural grays and earth-tones add a subtle yet unique touch, evoking the imagery of a refreshing flowing stream.

TANK	UNS 60S 10 GALLONS
SUBSTRATE	UNS CONTROSOIL FINE BLACK UNS CONTROSAND SANTA FE
LIGHTING	UNS TITAN 1 LED FOR 8 HOURS
FILTRATION	UNS DELTA 60
ACCESSORIES	UNS ATOMIZER
FERTILIZER	UNS PLANT FOOD MIN
HARDSCAPE	GHOST WOOD AND MARSH STONE
MAINTENANCE	40% ONCE A WEEK
PLANTS	OPHIOPOGON JAPONICUS ANUBIAS 'GIANT STARDUST' BOLBITIS DIFFORMIS 'MINI' SELAGINELLA WILLDENOWII
DATE	JULY 2023

SAND

EXTRA FINE

A fine natural sand is the perfect accent for a wide variety of popular aquascaping styles. Its smaller grain size makes it ideal for foregrounds and top layers. Available in an assortment of earthtones, these unique hues are bound to complement all hardscape materials.

APPROXIMATE GRAIN SIZE: 0.4 - 0.9MM



GRAVEL

NORMAL

A larger grain size that can be used as a complementary accent to an existing foreground or alone to recreate a natural riverbed scene. Its versatility makes this a top pick for aquascapers looking to provide that extra level of detail. Combine with extra fine for a customized blend.

APPROXIMATE GRAIN SIZE: 3 - 5MM



BORA

A mixture of lighter tones that is perfect for highlighting vibrant aquatic plants, tropical livestock and darker layout materials



MOJAVE

Provides a subtle warmer tone effect that is ideal for creating natural scenes with hardscape such as Dragon Stone and driftwoods.



MAUI

Cooler in tone and will pair perfectly with vibrant colors and will also provide a neutral contrast.



MONTEREY

Featuring a mixture of neutral tones, Monterey can be used alone or paired with a fine natural sand to create a customized blend. It is ideal for adding extra detail.



SANTA FE

Draws inspiration from natural riverbeds and streams. Its rich mix of cool grey and earthy hues provides a unique look that is ideal for accent use or biotope aquariums.



KONA

Its deeper tones can be used as a background or excellent contrast.



...tly with stones such as Seiryu
...ntrast to darker rocks.



MOROCCO

Delivers deep burgundy reddish tones. This unique sand will provide a bolder look that will still remain natural.



PACIFICA

A perfect balance of earthy hues. This is a great complementary sand to darker driftwoods.



...n supporting feature or to create



TAHOE

Its lighter neutral color palette is versatile and makes it suitable for a range of popular styles.



VESUVIUS

Great for creating stark contrast against vividly colored plants. It is naturally porous, supports a balanced ecosystem and can be used alone or as an accent on top of another style of Controsand.

WATER



Contrast is key

A key element in creating perspective in an aquascape is the use of contrast. Balancing highlights and shadows guides the viewer's eye. One effective technique is to let driftwood intertwine, revealing a dynamic interplay of light and shadow. Incorporating contrasting substrates like UNS Controsand Maui adds another layer of depth and visual interest.



DRY





WET



SEQUOIA

A mixed granule size pebbled gravel that includes a blend of warm and cool natural tones. This is the ideal Controsand for accent details as well as river or stream biotope aquascapes.

PEBBLE



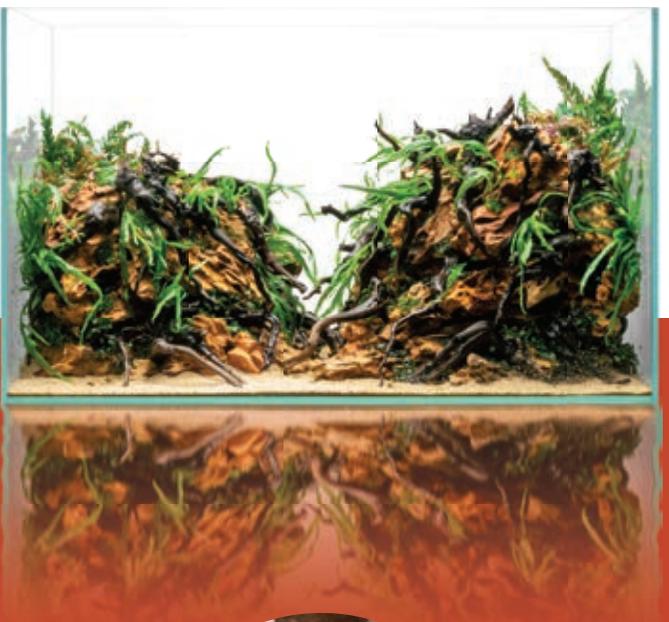
DAY 1 LAYOUT SETTING

A canyon scene was created by stacking small to medium sized Dragon Stones. Taking advantage of the natural contours, the stones were meticulously stacked in a zigzag pattern, ensuring stability. Next, fragments of Black Forest Spider Wood were interspersed among the rocks to depict an entanglement of roots within the stone formations.

The hardscape was then secured together by cotton tissue and liquid glue. Chipped Dragon Stone dust was collected then sprinkled over the glued areas to hide the joints. Once dried, the whole hardscape formed two solid mounds.

DAY 1 PLANTED

Due to the height of the hardscape, the addition of UNS Controsoil Extra and Controsand Vesuvius, it will prevent water flow through the hardscape. The substrate has on the aquascape will prevent water from flowing through the hardscape as there is less height than the hardscape.



JOINING HARDSCAPE



GLUING JOINT



CHIPPING STONE



ADDING DUST

DAY 152

MATURITY

scape, UNS Controsand Vesuvius was used as a base layer to raise the substrate bed before the Ultra Fine Black. There are several advantages to doing this. Because of the porous nature of Controsand, it will provide an increased surface area for beneficial bacteria plant root growth. In addition, it will allow for a more open aquascape which would be otherwise extremely restrictive without it. The visual impact this technique provides the young, smaller aquatic plants in the background to provide depth in a shorter amount of time that they will need to reach.

The midground Java Fern outgrew the aquarium relatively quickly and required regular pruning so that it would not overshadow the foreground plants. Along with trimming, removing the detritus that can be trapped in this complex aquascape was taken into account during weekly maintenance.



FILLING GAPS

ADDING FOUNDATION

ADDING SOIL

NATURE SYSTEM



BEA

UTILITY OF OVERGROWTH



ULTUM NATURE SYSTEMS

2025 Catalog

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