



par James Starr-Marshall

(Traduction en cours !)

## On the Rocks

Among the many current trends in aquascaping is the hardscape dominated layout, in short this is an aquascape where the overall shape is provided almost entirely by rockwork and sometimes wood. Planting is usually sparse in these setups and takes the form of highlights in areas that the prominent hardscape allows. This style of layout has given rise to much debate on social media as in recent years they have frequently appeared in the top 100 places of the International Plant Layout Contest. In the context of this competition I can see why many people are reluctant to accept them given that it is a plant layout contest rather than a rock layout contest. However, within the arena of general aquaria I think this type of aquascape is as legitimate as any other style of layout. I have, after all, seen some truly stunning Tanganyika and Malawi Cichlid setups that consist of just intricately placed rockwork. As I am a fan of rock based aquascapes I decided to try and set up a low energy hardscape orientated layout with minimal planting.

## Technique

Aquarium:	GLASS TANK50 X 34 X 34CM
Volume:	57 L
Lumière:	TMC Aquabar 'T' series ultra daylight 380 mm twin
Substrat:	(Rena Smart heater 100 Watt)
Gravier:	Unipac fine Fiji sand 12.5 Kg
Décoration:	Pagoda stone 10 kg
Filtre:	Interpet CF1 filter
CO2:	Rena Smart heater 100 Watt
Engrais (par semaine):	Tropica Premium Nutrition
Temps requis (heures/semaine):	½-1

## Plantes utilisées dans ce layout

A)	Taxiphyllum sp. 'Spiky Moss'	(003G TC)	3 pcs.
B)	Eleocharis parvula	(132C)	2 pcs.
C)	Cryptocoryne albida 'Brown'	(126B)	2 pcs.
D)	Pogostemon helferi	(053H TC)	2 pcs.
E)	Staurogyne repens	(049G TC)	2 pcs.
F)	Anubias barteri 'Petite'	(101H)	2 pcs.