

# JUSTIN SPODEN (age 12), our YOUNGEST AMATEUR DISCUS BREEDER

Justin writes:

“My name is Justin Spoden and I am 12 years old. I got my first aquarium 2 years ago, when I decided I wanted to keep some triops shrimps. Once the aquarium was set up, my Dad suggested that I could add some fish to it too, which is how the whole thing started. I got a bigger aquarium and the first fish moved in. First, I got some gouramis and bettas. This aquarium quickly turned out to be too small too, so then I got a 250 litre tank. When I had the new aquarium set up, we talked about the idea of keeping discus fish. My dad once used to keep some discus fish that had been caught in the wild. My next step was to buy some angelfish. And then I started liking discus fish better and better.

My dad recommended that I should buy some Stendker discus fish. So after a while, I asked my dad if I could try keeping some discus fish. My dad said yes, but you're going to need my help then. So we bought 4 discus fish. 1 pair of Red Scribbels and 1 pair of Blue Diamonds. Later, I also bought a Red Turquoise and a Stendker Tefe. Little by little, I learned how to care for the discus fish and then I could start doing more of the tasks of looking after them, on my own. My parents bought books for me to read, which helped me learn even more about keeping an aquarium. Well, and then my 250 litre tank became too small.

So, we bought a 400 litre aquarium. We decided it was time to add more fish to our group. So my parents bought me a pair of XXL Jumbo Solid X Snakeskins.



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Diskuszucht Stendker  
GmbH & Co. KG



[www.Diskuszucht-Stendker.de](http://www.Diskuszucht-Stendker.de)

The discus fish seem to feel really well because they suddenly started to spawn.

I really, really wanted to have a brood of self-bred fish, which is why I placed the Red Scribbelt pair in the breeding box. After a few failed attempts, they spawned again. But unfortunately it still didn't work. The male fish ate the fry. But then, about a week later, with the next attempt everything ran smoothly. And now I have about 100 little Red Scribbelt discus fish swimming around. Next, I'm going to try keeping the Solid X Snakeskin pair separately – my next attempt at breeding.

For me, discus fish have something almost magical, because they look so peaceful and tranquil.

I don't want to ever stop keeping or breeding them, because they are just such wonderful fish.

Because I've had so many questions to you (Diskuszucht Stendker) and to Axel from "Diskus-Direkt", I want to say thank you to you both for your great advice."

*(Report and pictures by: Justin Spoden, age 12)*

We'd like to thank Justin Spoden and his parents, for allowing us to share these pictures and his report about his sensational breeding success with our discus fish.

We wish the Spoden family and our discus fish all the very best!

**Angelika & Jörg Stendker**

