Two-part dosing starter

Use the tank’s measured demand, not a generic mL-per-gallon guess.

1 / Establish a reliable baseline

☐ Verify salinity, true water volume, alkalinity, calcium, and magnesium. Repeat odd results. Correct a confirmed imbalance separately from maintenance dosing.

☐ Test alkalinity at the same time on several days. Do not stop necessary dosing in a high-demand tank just to measure consumption. Record water changes and all other inputs.

2 / Estimate consumption

Daily use (dKH/day) = (first dKH − last dKH) ÷ elapsed days + daily dKH supplied. This simplified balance assumes no water changes or other unaccounted inputs; rising readings reduce the estimated use.

First: _____ dKH. Last: _____ dKH. Elapsed: _____ days.
Known daily dose supplies: _____ dKH/day. Estimated use: _____ dKH/day.

Illustration, not a prescription: 8.4 to 8.0 dKH over 2 days with no additions or water changes gives (8.4 − 8.0) ÷ 2 = 0.2 dKH/day.

3 / Convert demand to the product dose

☐ Use the exact formula, dilution, and net water volume in the daily dosing calculator. Different products have different strengths; do not copy another tank’s mL.

☐ Follow the maker’s paired-dose instructions. Equal mL only applies when the particular system is designed for equal volumes. Calcium corrections may need a different one-time amount.

Product / mixed strength: _____
Net system volume: _____ L. Alk part: _____ mL/day. Ca part: _____ mL/day.

4 / Deliver and adjust

☐ Calibrate each pump by collecting and measuring its output. Confirm labels, tubing, and programming. Keep alkalinity and calcium stocks separate; never combine them in a reservoir.

☐ Dose into good flow at separate times or locations, allowing each to disperse. Split delivery into small doses. Check alkalinity frequently during setup and retest calcium and magnesium as well.

☐ Review trends before changing maintenance. If cloudiness, crusting, or a sudden swing occurs, pause the increase and investigate, rather than doubling the dose.
Pump check: _____ Next test: _____ Planned review: _____

Sources & next steps

Coral Compass: two-part, Balling and Core7 guide
https://coralcompass.app/blog/two-part-dosing-guide/

Coral Compass: daily dosing calculator
https://coralcompass.app/#calc