



MIDWEST GROW KITS

MEGA MUSHROOM KIT SETUP

Midwest Grow Kits Revision 5.0; 2018

****Please read the Mushroom Growing Guide first prior to setting this up.****

Before setting this kit up you should have already injected your spores into the jars using one of the methods in the guide. Now you are ready for the incubation period**

Items not included: Water and Extension cords

1. The first step is to place the heating pad under the growing chamber. Place a towel underneath the chamber to lay heating pad on. Leave the blue cover on and remove all other packaging.
2. Connect the heating pad to an outlet and start with the LOW heat setting.
2. **Optimize your temperature.** Every room and growing area is different so this may take a little tweaking. You want to achieve 76-80 Degrees. (most exotic strains)
3. To raise the temperature adjust heat to medium or high.
4. To lower the temperature add insulation like towels or blanket in between the heating pad and container.

The combination of this will take a little experimenting, but once you get it right it will always stay the same. Once the temperature is set, add the jars and spread them out evenly and keep an eye on the thermometer.

***Tip* When growing in very cold areas or a cement floor, use a sheet of mylar, which is simply a space blanket found at any drug store & in most first aid kits. Place this down first on the ground, this will reflect 99% of the heat upwards and works great!**



Part 2: Fruiting Stage

Once your jars are fully colonized (100% White) you will prepare them for the fruiting stage!

⇒ The first thing to do is add the perlite to the chamber. Add the entire 2 Gallons.



⇒ Next, add enough water so that the perlite is wet but you cannot see any standing water. When you push on it you should feel some moisture but no pooling water. Another fool proof method is to add all the perlite to a pillow case first and soak it very well. Let the excess water drain away and then add to the fruiting chamber.



Setting up the Hydroponic Humidifier with HEPA Filter Hose.

The hydroponic humidifier works perfect for adding humidity and fresh air to feed your mushrooms. Millions of tiny water droplets are created by the air pump/Hydroton and then stored in the white polyfill layer and evaporated to create a steady slow stream of filtered humidified air.

⇒ To start, open the lid to the humidifier and add fresh bottled or distilled water until the water level is slightly above the Hydroton or about half way.

⇒ Locate the blue silicone HEPA hose labeled "From Air pump to Humidifier". One end of the hose contains the HEPA filter particle, this end connects to the air pump.



⇒ Feed the other end into the humidifier so it reaches the bottom as shown in the picture on the right.

⇒ Insert the second hose into the lid so its secure. The second hose should be flush with the lid. Feed the other end into the fruiting chamber about 1" or so.. Use tape or some poster tack to seal around the hose/lid to prevent any air leakage if needed.

⇒ Plug your air pump into the timer and adjust the timer so the system goes on for an hour 2-3 times per day. These settings will need to be optimized for each individuals growing environment. If you live in a dry climate you may need to run the humidifier more often, or if you live in a humid climate you may need to run it only once a day. You will want to achieve 90% or higher humidity when fruiting.

⇒ In some situations the humidifier may not be needed. You can bypass the humidifier by simply attaching the blue hose from the air pump to the fruiting chamber. This will still allow fresh air to enter without the extra humidity.

⇒ *This picture shows a timer setup to run 2 hours on and 2 hours off for a very dry climate.*



****Tip**** Do not leave your Thermometer/Humidity Gauge in the fruiting chamber all the time. The high humidity can cause failure over time. We advise placing it in the fruiting chamber when you are making adjustments and let it dry out each day for a few hours to improve the accuracy and extend the life of the batteries. You can safely remove the lid anytime to check on your growing mushrooms during this time.

Your finished setup should look similar to this!



Adding Light!

- ⇒ The Mega Kit includes our new 36-diode custom dual spectrum HP LED Grow light that is the closest thing to actual sunlight we have found. We also include a battery LED light, operating at 6,000k. Mushrooms are very different than plants. They use light only as a trigger mechanism to know when to produce mushrooms and what direction to grow. The lights provided in our kit provide the essential spectrum of daylight needed for growth.
- ⇒ During the fruiting stage, we recommend they get around 8-12 hours of light per day.
- ⇒ Use of the battery LED light is optional and is provided for closet growers who need an internal battery light source. You can also use it during the first few days after dunking to provide extra light to induce pinning.
- ⇒ Simply peel and stick the LED light to the inside of the lid or one of the sides. Make sure the surface is dry before installing.
- ⇒ Indirect sunlight from a window is also a great way to provide natural light to your kit.



Using the Plug in 110V HP LED 36-Diode Grow Light

- ⇒ Simply screw in the light bulb to the 12' outlet adapter cord.
- ⇒ Position the light anywhere. As long as the cakes are illuminated you have enough light. (some people like to rotate positions of the light every few days to keep the mushrooms growing in all directions.)
- ⇒ You can get creative and make your own lamp holder on something nearby or lay it across the top like the photo below.
- ⇒ The LED light does not get hot so it is safe to use anywhere!



**Remember, light only triggers growth and adding more

light does not increase growth like plants.

A simple homemade lamp holder using a small box



Additional Tips and Advice

- Growing temperatures vary by strain, but for the most popular varieties, the incubation temperature range we recommend is 76-81 degrees. Fruiting temperatures should be a few degrees lower than your incubating temps. Temperatures lower than 74 will slow down the growth but will not harm the cakes
- It may take a few days to regulate the settings to obtain optimal fruiting and incubating temps and humidity levels. Light will enter on the sides and will be more than enough to initiate pinning & fruiting.
- Don't add the perlite until after you birth the cakes. Use the container to achieve optimal growing and colonizing temperatures
- This kit can hold up to 30 jars! Grow them close together!
- If you use this kit to incubate spawn bags, do not place the spawn bags directly on the bottom. Use a thick book or something to elevate them up an inch or so. Since the plastic spawn bags are very thin, the direct heat from the heating pad can dry out the grain over time.
- After you birth the cakes, do not place them directly on the perlite. Use the jar lids or put down a small piece of foil to keep them up off the damp perlite. It doesn't matter which end of the cake faces up or down.
- You can add a cup of standard over the counter hydrogen peroxide directly to the perlite every week to keep the perlite free of bacteria. Be sure to check the perlite moisture levels every week and add water if it starts to dry out.
- Remember to order more jars once you birth the cakes and put them on the perlite. Therefore, you can have a continuous supply of mushrooms.
- Want a bigger grow next time? Easily convert this kit into a bulk grow using 2 spawn bags and our casing mix! See our spawn bag and bulk casing guides at <http://www.midwestgrowkits.com/guides.html>
- Need growing help? Email us at mgkhelp@gmail.com or call us (800) 921-4717 Mon-Fri 11am-5PM Central Time.

Visit our Extras page to see new products, replacement parts and more!

Only available to our current customers by accessing the page at the link below:

<http://www.midwestgrowkits.com/extras.html>

