



MIDWEST GROW KITS

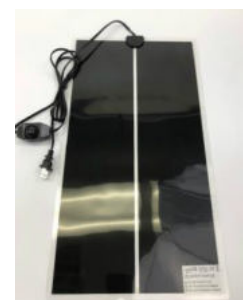
Midwest Grow Kits Revision 8.0 2020/2021.

Mega Mushroom Kit Setup

****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

- The first step is optimizing your kit for incubation before placing the jars inside. The Mega kit comes with a high power adjustable graphite heating mat. This technology heats very evenly and does not create hot spots like wire-based heating pads.
- Place the heating mat under the growing chamber. Place a thick towel on top of the heating mat like the picture on the right, period.
- Optimize your temperature. Every room and growing area is different so this may take a little tweaking. You want to achieve 74-78 Degrees. (most tropical strains).
- Start by turning the black knob all the way to the highest setting, wait a few minutes for it to warm up and check that its plugged in properly and working. Next, dial it back to about 50% power to achieve a baseline temperature.
- Place the digital thermometer inside the container with the lid on. The heating mat takes a little time to heat up so wait about an hour and check your temperature.
- Adjust the knob to increase or decrease the temperature to achieve the desired incubating temperatures of 74-78 degrees.
- Next, place your inoculated jars inside the container with the lid on and wait for the colonization process to begin.



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!

Tip While incubating, only temperature matters, not humidity. You should open the lid a few times per week to allow fresh air in. During this stage they need very little air exchange.

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.

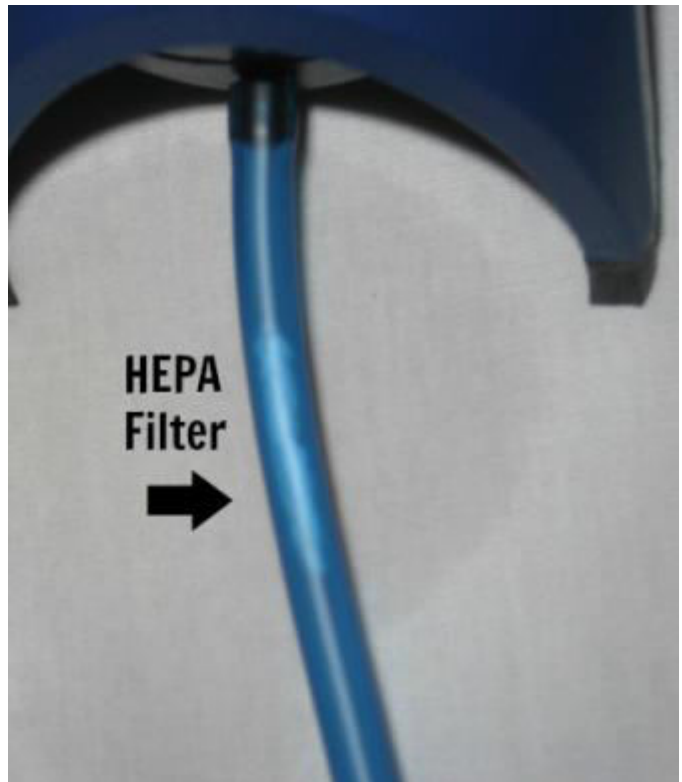


Setting up the Hydroponic Humidifier with HEPA filter hose

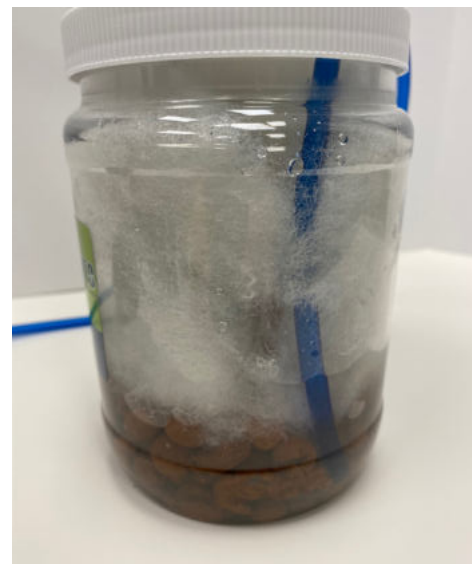
The hydroponic humidifier works perfect for adding humidity and fresh air to feed your mushrooms. Millions of tiny water droplets are created by the air pump/Hydroton and then stored in the white polyfill layer and evaporated to create a steady slow stream of filtered humidified air.

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

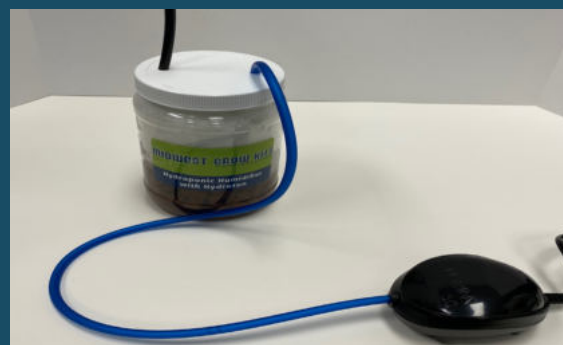
Locate the blue silicone HEPA hose labeled "From Air pump to Humidifier". One end of the hose contains the HEPA filter particle, this end connects to the air pump.



- »» 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.



Your humidifier setup should look like this!



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.

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 or off-grid use. 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.



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

» Simply screw in the light bulb to the 12' outlet adapter cord.

» Plug in the cord and insert into the pre-drilled hole in the lid.

» Use the on/off switch to allow 10-12 hours of light per day during the fruiting stage.

» An additional timer can be used for added convenience.



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



Additional Tips and Advice

» Growing temperatures vary by strain, but for the most popular varieties, the incubation temperature range we recommend is 74-78 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, period.

» 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, period.



» 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! period.

» 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, period.

» 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, period.

» 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, period.

» 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, period.



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:

<https://www.midwestgrowkits.com/guides.html>



Questions? Growing Help? Email or Call! We are there for you! support@midwestgrowkits.com (800) 921-4717 11am-5pm CST Mon-Fri

How to convert your Mega Kit to a Monotub for Bulk Growing!

Bulk growing, or sometimes called monotub is another style of growing. It involves colonizing a whole grain substrate like our spawn bags or 5-grain Jars and breaking up the substrate and mixing it with a casing mix to create one giant bed of mycelium. This method has become more popular in recent years. All of our growing kits can be easily converted to this style of growing. Please start by reading the Bulk Growing Guide & Spawn Bag Guide in our Guides Library. See the link on Page 1 of this guide.

Getting started:

Cleaning out your equipment is the first step. If you recently finished a typical jar grow with perlite, make sure you clean the container with a bleach based spray cleaner or make your own by mixing a tablespoon of bleach in a gallon of water and thoroughly soaking the tub. Rinse it out well and let dry.

To clean your humidifier simply add 1-2 cups of hydrogen peroxide to the jar and shake well. Let it sit for a few hours and then rinse with tap water.

Supplies needed:

- ➔ 2 Spawn bags or 4-5 16oz 5grain Jars
2-3 bags of the 5lb Bulk Casing Mix.
- Start by cutting a black trash bag and line the bottom of the fruiting chamber to block any light from entering on the bottom. It also creates a “micro-climate” and stays with the cake while it shrinks. See picture on the right.
- Air exchange is more important when growing this style. You have two options to increase the airflow, period.



The first option is to drill more 1/4" holes around the other sides of the bin. Usually spaced about 1-2" apart and continue around the other 3 sides. Remove the existing micropore tape if you haven't done so already. Connect the hydroponic humidifier and run this 24/7 throughout the fruiting stage of the grow. Refill water jar as needed. (If you don't have a drill simply heat up a Philips screwdriver on the stove and push the screwdriver through to make more holes. Make sure you do this in a well ventilated area)

The 2nd option is to drill 4-6 larger holes along the side. These holes should be around 1.5" in diameter and you will need a drill with a hole saw attachment. Fill holes with polyfil or use our Monotub Filter disks. (Sold separately on our supply page)

- Start by injecting your spawn bags or Jars and incubating at 73-76 degrees (few degrees less than 1/2 pint Jars). Follow the Spawn Bag Guide and allow them to become fully colonized, period.
- Follow the Bulk Casing Guide on adding your colonized grain and Casing Mix, period.
- You will want 2.75"-3.5" of depth in your tub, period.
- Keep everything in the dark for the first 7-10 days while the mix recolonizes, period.
- After the mix re-colonizes and you see lots of white poking through the top of the mixture, turn on the lighting system and run the light for 12-16 hours per day, period.
- Soon you will start seeing pins form and begin looking like the photo on the right, period.
- Enjoy your massive harvest! period.

