Start Here!

Quick Setup Guide

Simple Steps to Get Your AeroGarden Up and Growing (No tools required)



Keep This Guide!

AeroGarden™ 6

Welcome to the world of indoor gardening!

The **AeroGarden 6** is one of the most advanced countertop gardens in the world, and it's also really easy to use. In fact, the AeroGarden 6 is ready to grow in less than five minutes with just five easy steps that anyone can do!

This handy *Quick Setup Guide* shows you how to get started and provides all you need to know about the **AeroGarden 6**, and also offers tending and harvesting tips for your new garden.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

When using this AeroGarden electrical furnishing, basic precautions should always be followed, including the following:

Read all instructions before using this AeroGarden furnishing.

1. To reduce the risk of electric shock, the AeroGarden has a specific plug. Do not change the plug in any way.

DANGER – to reduce risk of electric shock:

2. Always unplug the AeroGarden from electrical outlet before cleaning or changing Grow Lights (light bulbs).

WARNING – to reduce risk of burns, fire, electric shock, or injury to persons:

3. Unplug AeroGarden from outlet before putting on or taking off parts.
4. Close supervision is necessary when an AeroGarden is used by or near children, invalids, or disabled persons.
5. Use AeroGarden only for its intended use as described in the instructions. Do not use attachments not recommended by manufacturer.
6. Never operate AeroGarden if it has a damaged cord or plug, if it is not working properly, if it has been dropped and damaged, or if it has been dropped in water. If any of these conditions occur/exist, contact www.AeroGardenSupport.com or your country's local distributor for instructions.
7. Keep cord away from heated surfaces.
8. Never operate furnishing with air openings blocked. Keep air openings free of lint, hair, and the like.
9. Never drop or insert any object into any electrical openings.
10. Do not use outdoors.
11. Do not operate where aerosol (spray) products are being used or where oxygen is being administered.
12. Do not touch moving parts or hot parts such as pumps, bulbs, reflective surfaces, and the like.
13. To disconnect, remove plug from outlet.
14. Do not place or submerse base, cord, plug, or lamp hood in water or other liquid to clean it.
15. Do not allow water to contact hot light bulbs.
16. Use only approved and supplied parts and accessories. Use only AeroGarden brand Grow Lights with this AeroGarden model. Use of any other kind of accessory is not recommended. Replacement parts can be ordered from www.AeroGarden.com
17. Do not use AeroGarden for other than intended purpose.
18. This product is intended for household and residential use only. This product is not approved for commercial applications.
19. If supply cord is damaged, it must be replaced by manufacturer, its service agent, or similarly qualified technician in order to avoid a hazard.
20. Electrical wiring must be in accordance with local regulations.
21. This appliance is not intended for use by persons (including children) with reduced physical, sensory or mental capabilities, or lack of experience and knowledge, unless they have been given supervision or instruction concerning use of appliance by a person responsible for their safety.
22. Children should be supervised to ensure they do not play with the appliance.

AeroGarden 6 Model #: 100602-BLK
Electrical rating: 120V~60Hz, 1A

Date Code:

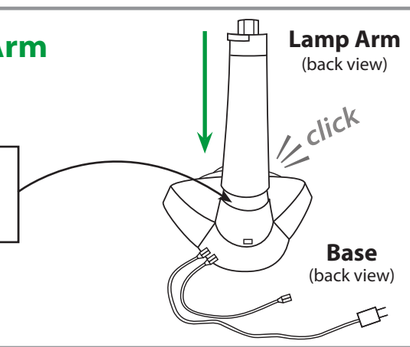
SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS

5 Easy Steps

To Get Your AeroGarden Ready to Plant

1 Insert Lamp Arm into Base

Push *Lamp Arm* straight down until you hear a "click."

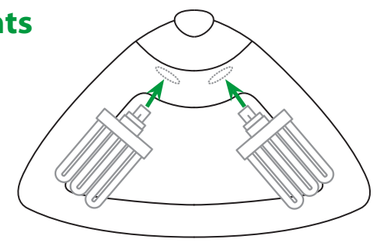


2 Install Grow Lights

Push *Grow Lights* straight into sockets in *Lamp Hood*

DO NOT TWIST LIGHTS!

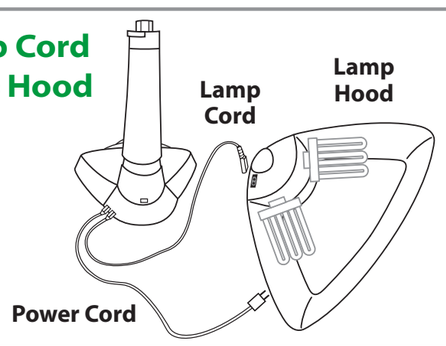
For optimal growth, replace Grow Lights *every 6 months.*



Lamp Hood
(bottom view)

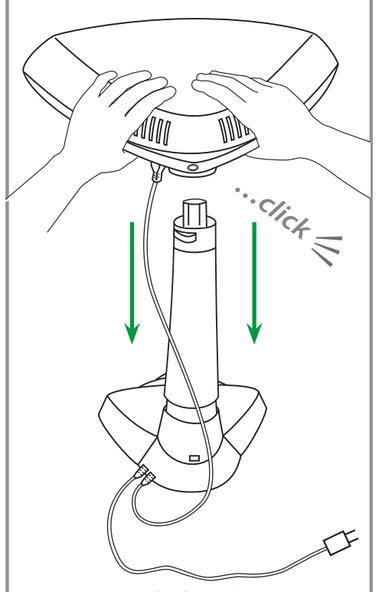
3 Plug Lamp Cord into Lamp Hood

Push *Lamp Cord* firmly into socket in *Lamp Hood*



4 Place Lamp Hood on Lamp Arm

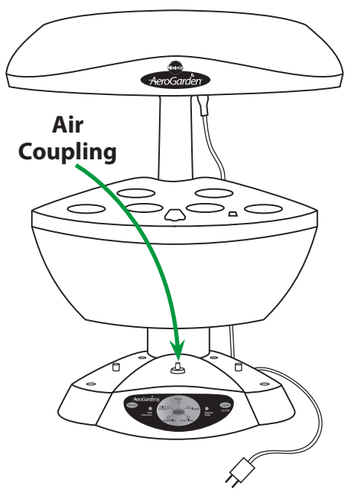
Center hands over *Lamp Arm* and push *Lamp Hood* down until you hear a "click."



(back view)

5 Set Bowl into Base

Check to be sure that *Bowl* is securely seated on *Air Coupling* in *Base*.



(front view)

CONGRATULATIONS!
Your garden is ready to grow.
It really is that easy!

For more details on planting, growing and harvesting your AeroGarden, please turn the page

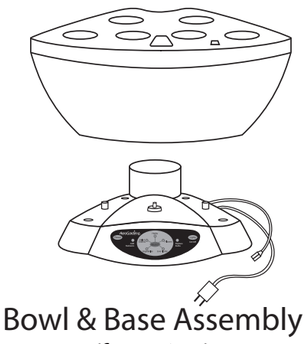
Included in Package



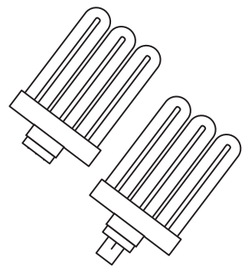
Lamp Hood (front view)



Lamp Arm
(front view)



Bowl & Base Assembly
(front view)

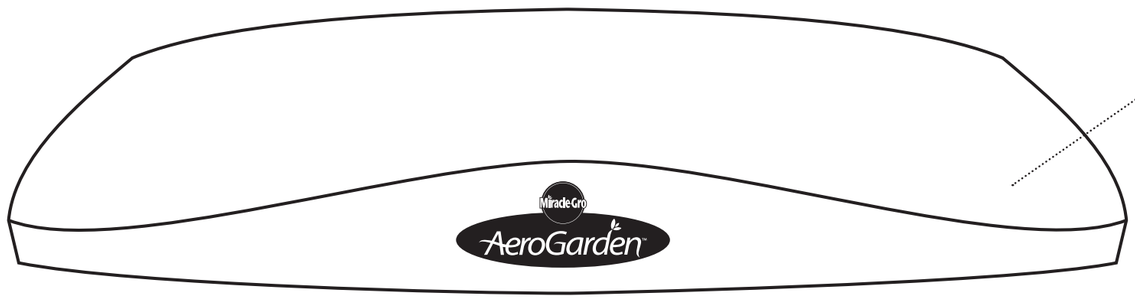


Grow Lights (2)
Model #100340



Seed Kit

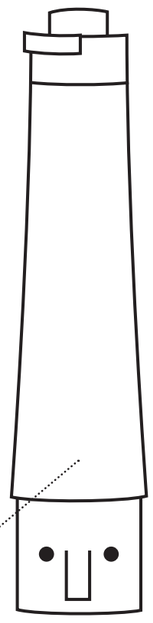
▸ ***Order replacement Grow Lights, extra Seed Kits and Accessories at www.AeroGarden.com***



Lamp Hood
(front view)

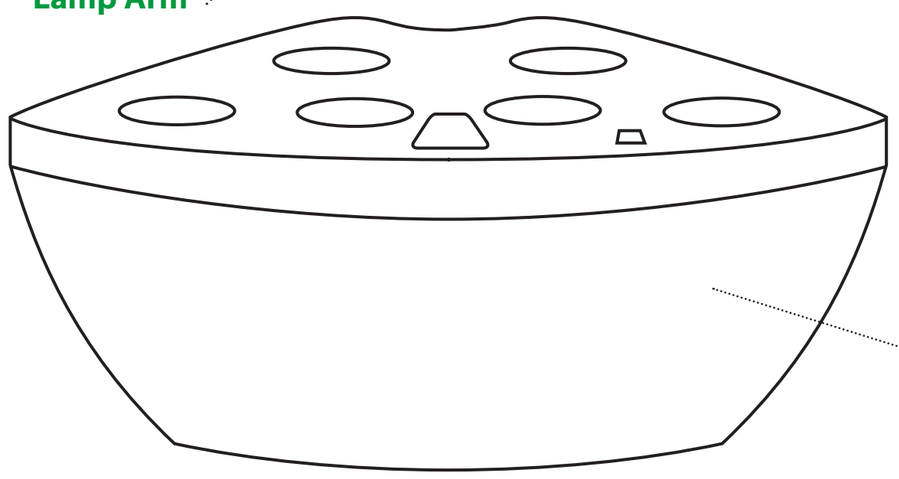
Place Your Garden...

- On a sturdy, water-tolerant surface *(metal surfaces may cause noise due to vibration)*
- Under a space that allows 22" (56cm) clearance for the full height of raised lamp
- Near a standard electrical outlet, per local regulations
- In a 65-75°F (16-23°C) environment *(optimal)*
- Away from reach of children or pets
- Away from direct sources of **heat** *(e.g., stove, furnace vents)* or **cold** *(e.g., window drafts, A/C vents)*
- AeroGardens do not need additional light or a sunny window. In fact, too much direct sunlight can overheat your plants
- For optimal tending & harvesting, also consider placement with easy access to un-softened water

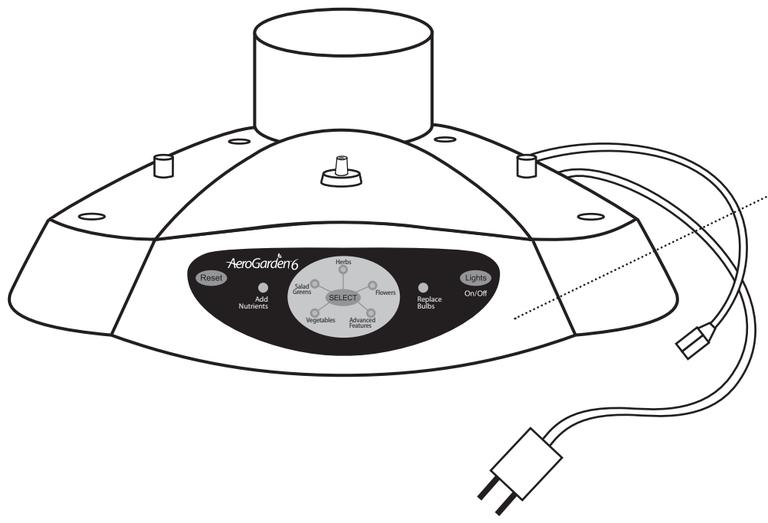




Lamp Arm



Bowl
(front view)



Base
(front view)

NEXT: Planting Your Garden

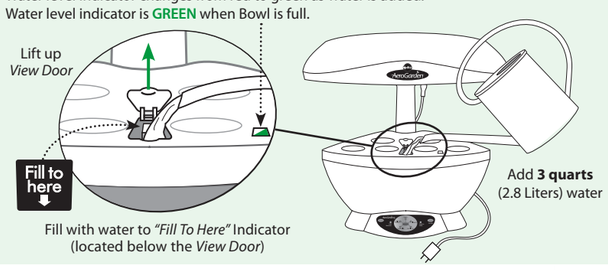
1. Add Water

Add water to *"Fill To Here" indicator* located below *View Door*.

Use room temperature tap water or bottled distilled water. Do not use well water or softened water, as it contains levels of sodium usually harmful to plants.

When additional water is needed, water level indicator will be red. Add water to raise level up to *"Fill To Here"* inside *Bowl*. For best results, add water frequently to *"Fill To Here"* before water level indicator turns red.

Water level indicator changes from red to green as water is added.
Water level indicator is **GREEN** when Bowl is full.



2. Add Grow Pods

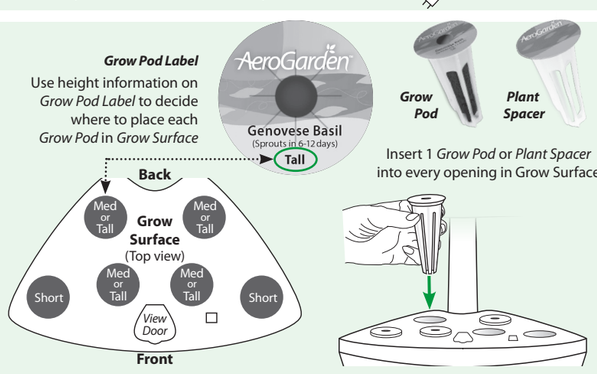
Insert *Grow Pods* into openings in *Grow Surface*.

Grow Pod Labels often identify plant height to assist with placement. Look for height noted on *Labels*.

Plants grow best and look best if medium or tall plants are in back and front center openings, and short plants are in front side openings (see diagram).

Seed Kits for tomatoes and peppers often include both *Grow Pods* and *Plant Spacers*. *Plant Spacers* allow your tomato/pepper plants ample room to grow.

Do not remove *Labels* from *Grow Pods*. The labels identify the plant type and plant height, show the germination time, and inhibit algae growth.



Note: Our *Universal Grow Pods* are well-designed to fit into the *Grow Surface* of any AeroGarden model. Slight pressure may be required to insert pods fully in some models.

3. Add Bio-Domes

Place a *Bio-Dome* over each *Grow Pod*.

Bio-Domes rest on *Grow Pods* and do not 'snap' into place. Also, it is not necessary for *Bio-Domes to* cover any *Plant Spacers* in your AeroGarden.

Leave *Bio-Domes* on the *Grow Pods* until plants have sprouted and their leaves nearly touch the domes.

Once removed, *Bio-Domes* may be reused/recycled.



Removing *Bio-Domes*
When plants sprout through hole in *Grow Pod Labels*, and are almost touching dome coverings, remove *Bio-Domes* and reuse or recycle.



Reminder: Do not remove **Bio-Domes** until seeds have sprouted.

NEVER REMOVE SEED POD LABELS

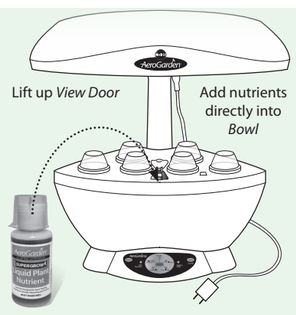
4. Add Nutrients

Nutrient instructions may be found on the packaging, as well as in the *Seed Kit Instructions* booklet. Read and follow the instructions carefully!

Shake *Liquid Nutrients* well before feeding your AeroGarden or any other plants. Use only the recommended amount of *Liquid Nutrient.*

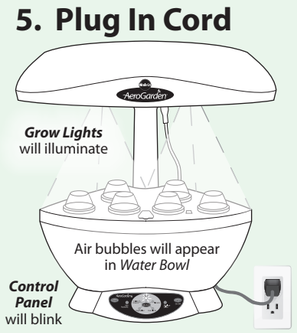
Add nutrient directly into *Bowl* when first planting your Seed Kit, and when the 'Add Nutrient' reminder activates (every two weeks). Do not overfeed! "More" isn't better. Too much nutrient may be harmful to your plants.

Note: Remember to record the Starting Date (the date your Seed Kit was planted) on a calendar or in a notebook.



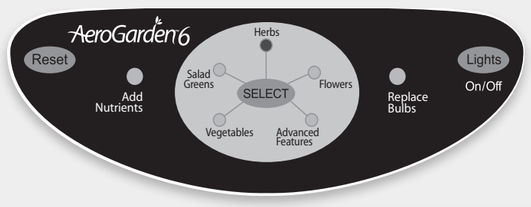
Nutrient Feeding Tip: Always top off water level when adding *Liquid Nutrients*, and as the Water Indicator moves from green to red. For best results, top off the water level in your garden regularly.

5. Plug In Cord



Congratulations! You're on your way to a beautiful garden.

Control Panel Settings



- **SELECT Plant Type**

Press the SELECT button until you reach the type of plants you are growing: Vegetables, Salad Greens, Herbs, or Flowers. Your AeroGarden 6 *Grow Lights* will automatically turn on and off at pre-programmed intervals according to the plant type selected. *(see light cycles chart at right)*

Advanced Features: Sets lights to a 17-hour cycle. Advanced Features can also set the *Grow Lights* to a 24-hour cycle. To activate the 24-hour cycle, press and hold the 'Select' button until the green light blinks (about 3 seconds), then release. The *Grow Lights* will now stay on continuously.

- **Add Nutrients**

When "Add Nutrient" light blinks (every 2 weeks), add *Liquid Nutrients* into the *Bowl* and top up the water level to *"Fill To Here."* Press and release the "Reset" button to restart nutrient timer and turn off the blinking light.

- **Replace Bulbs**

When "Replace Bulbs" light blinks (after 6 months of use), it is time to replace both *Grow Lights*. You may want to turn off *Grow Lights* for a few minutes to allow them to cool. Once replaced, press and release "Reset" button to restart *Grow Light* timer and turn off the blinking light. Additional *Grow Lights* can be ordered at **aerogarden.com**.

Light Cycles *(Aerator runs 24 Hours)*

Garden Selection	Lights ON...
Vegetables	16 hrs.
Salad Greens	16.5 hrs.
Herbs	17 hrs.
Flowers	15.5 hrs.
Advanced Features This setting can also activate a 24-hour cycle, see instructions at left	17 hrs. 24 hrs.

- **Lights On/Off**

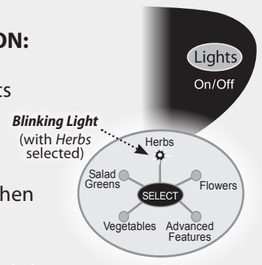
Use to *occasionally* override built-in light timer. Once pushed, lights will stay on/off until the next time built-in light timer is set to go on/off. This will not affect the timing of your light cycle and *occasional* use of this feature will not harm your plants.

Note: In case of an electrical power outage, your AeroGarden has a backup memory system which stores timers for light, nutrients, grow light replacement, and plant selection settings. Once power is restored, your AeroGarden will revert to the On/Off Light cycle you have set.

How to Personalize Your Light Timer (optional)

When you plug in your AeroGarden for the first time, the *Grow Lights* will come on. They will continue to come on at this same time every day. *If you are satisfied with the light timer, you do not need to make any changes.* If you would like to change the time of day when the lights come on, follow these simple steps:

At the exact time of day when you want the lights to come ON:



1. Turn *Grow Lights* ON, if they are not already on, using the "Lights On/Off" button. Lights must be ON in order to reset timer.
2. With the lights ON, press and hold the "Lights" button. Watch for the light next to the plant type you selected to begin blinking. It will blink slowly for the first few seconds, then will begin blinking rapidly. Keep holding down on the "Lights" button until the rapid blinking begins, then release.
3. After releasing the "Lights" button, the *Grow Lights* will go off, and about 10 seconds later they will come back on. The lights are now set to come ON at this time each day.

If you prefer to set the lights for the time of day when they will go OFF, follow these same instructions, (at the exact time of day you want the lights to turn off) but instead release the "Lights" button when the plant selection light is in the initial slow blinking mode.

Note: You can reset your timer as often as you wish.



An Important Note About Lights

Your AeroGarden 6 has a built-in timer for *Grow Lights* that automatically provides your plants with "sunlight" (about 16 hours) and "night" (about 8 hours). As long as your plants get this amount of light, it does not matter what time the lights are off. Many people find it most convenient to have the lights go ***on*** in the morning and ***off*** at night, to match their own personal wake and sleep schedule.

Gardening Tips for Maximum Harvests

PLANTING

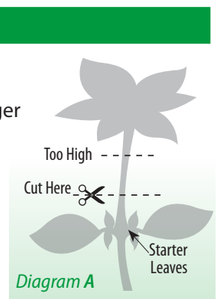
- Many AeroGarden pods are labeled for height. Gardens grow and look their best when tall plants are planted in back, medium plants in the middle, and short plants in front side openings. If plants are all the same size, as in the Salad Greens Kit, they can be planted anywhere.
- Do not remove labels from seed pods. The labels identify the plant type and plant height, show the germination time, and inhibit algae growth.
- *Bio-Domes* help regulate moisture and temperature for optimal germination. Leave them on until plants are nearly touching the domes.
- Seed Kits for large plants like tomatoes and peppers often receive fewer than 7 pods to compensate for the large plant size. Place seed pods in each front/side opening and in the back left or right opening. Put plant spacers in the remaining openings.

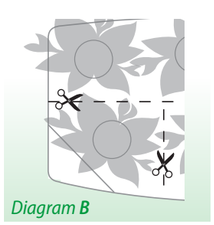
GERMINATION

- Some seeds germinate in less than 24 hours. Some take 24 days or more. Most AeroGarden Seed Pod Labels give an estimate of how long your seeds will take to germinate but many factors impact germination.
- Plants are impacted by temperature. As a rule of thumb, if you are comfortable, so are your plants. However, cold weather plants like Salad Greens germinate better in cooler temperatures. Heat lovers like tomatoes and peppers will germinate faster in warmer temperatures (above 70°F). But don't sweat it! While they may take a bit more time, your seeds will germinate.
- If you are growing your own seeds, plant 5-6 seeds per pod and check the seed packet for information regarding temperature and days to germination.

PRUNING

- Lower your plants, don't raise your lights! You will achieve more compact, beautiful growth and bigger harvests if you prune plants to keep the lights closer to all plants in your Garden.
- Fast growing plants (like basil) make gardeners want to raise the lights too soon. Resist! Pruning the plant just above a new leaf set (Diagram **A**) and leaving the lights down low will ensure that slow growing and low growing plants in your garden get all the light they need to flourish.
- Not pruning is the number one gardening mistake made by new AeroGardeners! Prune early and prune often — and enjoy your first small harvests!





- Plants compete for light. Left untended, more aggressive growers can actually block enough light to suppress growth of their slower growing neighbors, which eventually can die off due to lack of light. Spreading leaves must be trimmed (Diagram **B**) to make sure that all plants get enough light to thrive and produce big yields.
- Finally, pruning = harvesting. Each time you prune you get to enjoy fresh-picked herbs in a salad, soup, on pizza or a sandwich. And, a full, bushy garden looks much better than one spindly, giant plant surrounded by straggly, light-starved neighbors. Pruning also releasesa wonderful scent. So prune!
- Learn more about pruning at www.AeroGarden.com/Help.

LIGHTS

- Plants love light! Always keep your *Grow Lights* as close to your plants as possible. However, plants touching the lights will discolor those leaves and they will have to be snipped off.
- Always check to see if you can prune plants instead of raising the lights.
- After pruning, lower your lights back down if necessary. Plants should be 1–2 inches below lights.
- For best growth, we recommend replacing *Grow Lights* every 6 months.

WATER

- Plants grown in the AeroGarden are designed to thrive with most municipal tap water. Improved results can be seen with distilled water or reverse osmosis water, but this is not needed in most cases.
- Do not use well water or softened water. Most well water contains a high amount of dissolved solids that upset the balance of our nutrients, and softened water adds sodium. This can result in plants suddenly browning, or just not growing well.
- While the AeroGarden water level indicator will remind you when water gets low, best results are achieved by topping off water regularly — add water up to *"Fill To Here"* before Water Level Indicator turns red.

NUTRIENTS

- Typically, your plants will need nutrients every two weeks.
- Always shake nutrients well before adding.
- Follow instructions for feeding on the *Liquid Nutrient* packaging. Add nutrients directly into water bowl.
- Nutrient requirements for tomatoes and peppers may change as plants grow. Please refer to the Liquid Nutrient packaging for specific details.
- More isn't better. Resist the temptation to add "just a little extra." Too much nutrient can hurt your plants.
- For best results, try a "Rinse and Refill" once a month when it's time to add nutrients. Simply empty all water from the bowl, add fresh water and nutrients and press "Reset" to reset the Nutrient Timer. This balances the nutrients, delivering an instant 'pick up' to plants.

HARVESTING

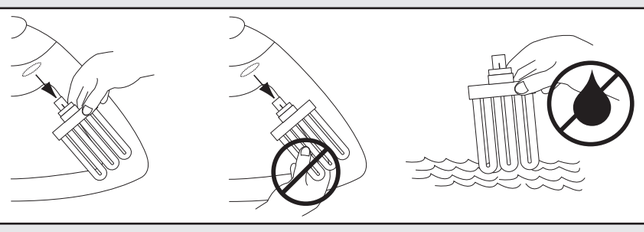
- Many first-time growers are hesitant to harvest. Don't be! Most gardens will produce more, for a longer period, with frequent harvests. You almost can't begin to harvest (prune) early enough.
- AeroGardens work best with a harvesting method called "cut and come again." Simply put, you enjoy frequent small harvests and then watch as the plants rapidly regrow — ready for harvest again and again.
- Enjoy frequent, smaller harvests for the first month or two until plants mature and larger harvests are available.
- Harvest often to maintain a healthy garden, but never take more than 1/3 of each individual plant at a time.
- For Salad Greens, cut the top 2 inches off the entire garden, or harvest large leaves individually by cutting off at the base of the plant.

U.S. CAUTION – You are cautioned that any changes or modifications not expressly approved in this manual could void your authority to operate this equipment.

To reduce the risk of electric shock, this furnishing has a polarized plug (one blade is wider than the other). This plug will fit in a polarized outlet only one way. If the plug does not fit fully in the outlet, reverse the plug. If it still does not fit, contact a qualified electrician to install the proper outlet. Do not change the plug in any way.

CAUTION: TO PREVENT ELECTRIC SHOCK, MATCH WIDE BLADE OF PLUG TO WIDE SLOT, FULLY INSERT.

Disconnect power before servicing or replacing lamp.
Use only AeroGarden
Grow Light #100340



DO NOT SUBMERGE HOUSEHOLD USE ONLY

Do not immerse cord in water or other liquid, and unplug cord from outlet when not in use.
Any servicing is to be performed by an authorized service representative.
Use original packing for storage when the furnishing is not in use.

LIMITED WARRANTY

What Is Covered – This warranty covers any defects in materials or workmanship, with the exceptions stated below.

How Long Coverage Lasts – This warranty runs for one (1) year on this AeroGarden and six (6) months on the Grow Lights(s), from the date of original purchase, for the original purchaser/user.

What is Not Covered – The warranty shall not apply to problems arising from: normal wear; failure to adhere to enclosed operating instructions; serial numbered products if the serial number has been removed or defaced; products subject to negligence, accident, improper use, maintenance or storage; products damaged by circumstances beyond AeroGrow International Inc.'s control; loss or damage to removable parts; or products modified (including, but not limited to, modifications through the use of unauthorized parts or attachments) or repaired by anyone other than AeroGrow International, Inc., or its designee. This warranty excludes all incidental or consequential damages.

What AeroGrow Will Do – AeroGrow International, Inc., at its option, will repair any defects in materials or workmanship or will replace these products with ones of similar features and price. AeroGrow International, Inc.'s sole obligation and your exclusive remedy under this warranty shall be limited to such repair or replacement.

To Return This Product – If you have questions or concerns regarding your AeroGarden, please contact Customer Service at 1-800-476-9669. Please do not return any product without contacting AeroGrow for return authorization. Unauthorized returns, as well as C.O.D. shipments, will be refused. For more information regarding returns, please see the Customer Care section at www.AeroGarden.com.

Due to continuing improvements, actual product may differ slightly from the product described herein. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may have other legal rights that vary from state to state.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact our customer service representatives at 1-800-476-9669.

AeroGrow INTERNATIONAL, INC.
Grow Anything, Anytime...Guaranteed

AeroGrow International, Inc., P.O. Box 18450, Boulder, CO 80308

NEED SUPPLIES, ACCESSORIES OR INFORMATION? Call: 1-800-476-9669 or Visit Our Website: www.AeroGarden.com

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