**WHAT’S INCLUDED:**

- **Grow Bowl**
- **Short Pump Nozzle**
- **Inlet Nozzle**
- **Drain Filter**
- **Water Port Cover**

**TIPS**

1. The Grow Bowl is a novel method of hydroponic growing in your AeroGarden that expands the possibilities of what can be grown. We’re still learning about all you can grow in your Grow Bowl. A desire for experimentation and trying new things are essential for success with your Grow Bowl!

**DO NOT ADD WATER WHILE PUMP IS RUNNING. This will result in your garden being too full. ONLY ADD WATER WHEN PUMP IS NOT RUNNING, if ADD WATER alert is still activated. You can tell when the pump is running when you hear trickling sounds in the Grow Bowl.**

When the pump is NOT running and the ‘Add Water’ reminder activates, add water through the Water Port until it just touches the bottom of the Grow Bowl, as shown above. Do not over fill.

Many live plants like bonsai, dwarf fruit trees and orchids like even drier environments. If you see yellowing or leaves or any rotting and you have the pump set to 2 mins on/9999 off, it is possible that the humidity levels in your area are keeping the media too moist. You can unplug the pump from the base and manually check the grow media moisture level regularly. As the bottom layer of grow media becomes drier; plug the pump in and allow it to run for 2 minutes, then unplug again. You might find that running the pump for just 2 minutes every 2 weeks is ideal for your plants. Just don’t forget to check media daily and replace the pump as needed... allowing the media to completely dry out will not be good for your plants either.

**The Add Nutrient alert activates every two weeks. For best results, perform a ‘rinse and refill’ replug the pump as needed... allowing the media to completely dry out will not be good for your plants either.**

**LIGTBs**

- Most plants will grow well under the ‘Flowers’ setting.
- Always keep your lights as close to plants as possible without burning.

**PLANTS**

- Strawberries and other fruiting plants need to be pollinated to set fruit. The ‘Be the Bee’ pollinator is the perfect tool for releasing and spreading pollen, and it is available under the Accessories tab at aerogarden.com. Alternatively, you can pollinate open flowers by gently shaking the plant, or go from flower to flower with a cotton swab or electric toothbrush to pollinate.

**MEDIA**

We have tested a variety of different growing media in the Grow Bowl. We like the Chunk Coco Fiber because it creates excellent oxygenation, is easy to plant and is a renewable resource. However, many other grow media, like gravel, hydroton, perlite, etc., may be used. Be sure to rinse media well before using (to extend pump life). Don’t use particle sizes below 3mm. (actual size)

**WATER**

- Water Port until it just touches the bottom of the Grow Bowl, as shown above. Do not over fill.
- Faster growing plants (more than 1 inch per week) should be fed the full 8ml of nutrients per feeding, depending upon how quickly the plant grows. Some experimentation may be needed to find the right nutrient quantity for the type of plants that you are growing. Some plants, like orchids, might need a hydronic bloom formula added to induce flowering. A complete hydroponic nutrient solution must always be used to feed plants. Completely change the nutrient solution once a month or more by emptying the bottom water reservoir bowl (not the Grow Bowl) and then refilling with fresh water and nutrients.

**POLLINATION**

- Strawberries and other fruiting plants need to be pollinated to set fruit. The ‘Be the Bee’ pollinator is the perfect tool for releasing and spreading pollen, and it is available under the Accessories tab at aerogarden.com. Alternatively, you can pollinate open flowers by gently shaking the plant, or go from flower to flower with a cotton swab or electric toothbrush to pollinate.

**OTHER**

- The Grow Bowl is then filled with a “soil-less” Grow Media (we recommend chunk coconut fiber).
- Live plants such as strawberry crowns, bonsai, dwarf fruit, mini roses and orchids, are planted in the media. You may need to find the right nutrient quantity for the type of plants that you are growing. Some plants, like orchids, might need a hydronic bloom formula added to induce flowering. A complete hydroponic nutrient solution must always be used to feed plants. Completely change the nutrient solution once a month or more by emptying the bottom water reservoir bowl (not the Grow Bowl) and then refilling with fresh water and nutrients.

**Note:** With plants that will live for years in the AeroGarden (like roses, bonsai, dwarf fruit, strawberries and more) it is best to do frequent complete water changes, or “rinse and refill.”

**PLANT NUTRIENT PUMP SETTING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Type</th>
<th>Nutrient Setting</th>
<th>Pump Setting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonsai</td>
<td>2-4 mL</td>
<td>2 mins every week (2 on/9999 off)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orchids</td>
<td>2 mL</td>
<td>2 mins every week (2 on/9999 off)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dwarf Citrus</td>
<td>4 mL</td>
<td>2 mins every week (2 on/9999 off)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strawberries</td>
<td>4 mL</td>
<td>2 mins every week (2 on/9999 off)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini Roses</td>
<td>6-8 mL</td>
<td>2 mins every week (2 on/9999 off)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bonsai may require root pruning once or twice a year. There are many good books and websites dedicated to the art of Bonsai — choose one that works for you.

Depending on variety, orchids may need specific conditions to reflower, however we’ve found that patience is the best solution. Orchid flower is a few times a year “in the wild” and blooms can last for months.

If your plants are showing signs of stress, check your plants for bugs. Fruit trees often arrive with scale bugs, which are easily treated. Indoor roses and strawberries can be overwhelmed by aphids. A plan for aphid control should be developed early in your grow cycle with these plants, as their appearance is likely. There are many natural home solutions, and several effective “not so natural” solutions. Ladybugs are effective aphid killers, but they can be a bit of a pest indoors (albeit a cute one).

**POLLINATION**

- Strawberries and other fruiting plants need to be pollinated to set fruit. The ‘Be the Bee’ pollinator is the perfect tool for releasing and spreading pollen, and it is available under the Accessories tab at aerogarden.com. Alternatively, you can pollinate open flowers by gently shaking the plant, or go from flower to flower with a cotton swab or electric toothbrush to pollinate.

**OTHER**

- The Grow Bowl is a novel method of hydroponic growing in your AeroGarden that expands the possibilities of what can be grown. We’re still learning about all you can grow in your Grow Bowl. A desire for experimentation and trying new things are essential for success with your Grow Bowl!
How to Use the Grow Bowl in Your AeroGarden

Assemble Grow Bowl

1. Start with your clean AeroGarden, unplugged and with no water.
2. Remove the Grow Deck (lid with seed pod openings) from your AeroGarden and store it for later use.
3. Remove the Long Pump Nozzle* that is attached to the Pump. Store the Long Pump Nozzle for later use. (The pump is housed inside the black box in the center of the Water Bowl).
4. Connect the Short Pump Nozzle to the Pump Connector. (see image 4).
5. Insert Inlet Nozzle through drain hole on the underside of the Grow Bowl. You should hear the Inlet Nozzle click into place, and it will not move if installed correctly. If needed, use more pressure to click it securely into place. Inlet Nozzle must be secure before moving to the next step.
6. Place Drain Filter over the drain hole on the inside of the Grow Bowl. You should hear the Drain Filter click into place. Make sure it locks firmly with the pegs of the Inlet Nozzle. Drain Filter will not move if installed correctly. If Drain Filter is not securely in place, push Inlet Nozzle farther into the bottom of the Grow Bowl.
7. Set Grow Bowl in place in AeroGarden Water Bowl. If correctly assembled, Inlet Nozzle will fit naturally into Short Pump Nozzle. Does not fit? Make sure you are using the Short Pump Nozzle and that it is fully inserted into the Pump Connector. Short Pump Nozzle must be connected to the pump, not the bottom of the Grow Bowl.
8. Add water to AeroGarden Water Bowl until water just touches the bottom of the Grow Bowl.
9. Place the Water Port Cover over the Water Port opening.

When adding water, only fill to bottom of Grow Bowl.

DO NOT OVERFILL. Never add water while pump is running, even if "ADD WATER" light is on.

Step 1: Program Pump Intervals

The customizable pump feature automatically waters the Grow Media in the Grow Bowl at the programmed intervals.

AeroGarden Ultra / Ultra LED Setting

1. Select "Pump Cycle"
2. Select "Customize Pump"
3. Select "Customize Setting"
4. Use up/down arrows to change "Mins On" to "2" and "Mins Off" to 999.
5. Press "OK" to select "Setting Correct" then press "Home" button twice to return to Dashboard

AeroGarden Bounty / Bounty Elite Setting

1. Touch "Quick Plant" button and follow on screen prompts to take your garden through a complete Quick Plant cycle set up for "Flowers" (16 hours Light On cycle.)
2. Touch the "Water" icon on the Home screen, then touch the "Pump Setting" option
3. Touch the "Change Settings" option, and touch the Next button through the next 2 text screens
4. Use up/down arrows to change to "Minutes ON: 2 Minutes OFF: 9999"
5. Touch OK to confirm, then return to Home

Step 2: Add Grow Media

Once you know your pump is working, you can add in the grow media. AeroGrow uses a renewable resource, Chunk Coconut Fiber, as a grow media (some may have been included with your Grow Bowl kit, depending on the bundle you purchased). For information on using other types of grow media, see the "Tips/Media" section of this guide.
- Place the Water Port Cover over the Water Port opening.
- Add water to AeroGarden Water Bowl until water just touches the bottom of the Grow Bowl.
- If the pump does not start, be sure that the pump cord that exits from the back of the Water Bowl is plugged into the connector on the back of the Base. The Add Water light may activate at this time. Do not add more water!

Step 3: Plant Garden

Following are instructions for planting the Strawberry Root Crown Kit from AeroGrow, or other live plants:
- Place strawberry crowns or any live plant immediately upon arrival. If you are unable to plant right away, store in refrigerator.
- To plant, clear a hole for each root crown in the grow media using fingers or a spoon.
- For strawberry crowns: Place the crown, root side down, into the media, with the top of the crown near the top of the media as shown. Be sure the roots are planted into the portion of the grow media that gets soaked as the pump runs. (see diagram).

Step 4: Nutrients, Water and Light

**NUTRIENTS**

If you have not already added nutrient, add now as suggested in the "Tips" section (you may have added them during the Quick Plant process). Then add new nutrients every two weeks when the automatic reminder activates.

Many Grow Bowl plants like bonsai or dwarf fruit trees, may grow more slowly than typical AeroGarden herbs, tomatoes and greens. These live plants need less nutrient than plants started from seed. Look for signs of stress in your plants and use less nutrients per feeding if you note signs of nutrient burn (yellow/brown leaf edges).

**WATER**

Remember the pump only runs 2 minutes weekly, if you are using the recommended settings in this guide. Due to the large volume of water that is pumped into the Grow Bowl, the "Add Water" alert will sometimes trigger when the pump is running.

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*Long Pump Nozzle* (remove and store)