SALAD
Tending & Harvesting Guide
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Quick Setup Guides available at:
www.aerogardensupport.com
Planting Your Garden

A little bit of care for your Garden will ensure rapid growth and bountiful harvests. You will see sprouts in 1 to 3 days. In about 3 weeks, you will experience the transformation of your seeds into salad greens ready for your table.

Whether this is the first or fifth garden you are planting in your AeroGarden, you will need to reference your Quick Setup Guide.

If you have planted a garden in your AeroGarden prior to this one, please refer to “Replanting Your AeroGarden” in the Quick Setup Guide before you proceed.

If you no longer have your model’s Quick Setup Guide, you can obtain the latest version of it at www.aerogardensupport.com

Remove Domes

• A few days after planting your AeroGarden, tiny plants will appear through the holes in each Seed Pod Label. When this occurs, remove the Domes from each Seed Pod with emerging plants and discard or recycle. Do not remove the Label!

• To reduce plant stress, we recommend removing the Domes shortly after the light(s) turn off or near the end of the light cycle.

• You do not need to thin your plants as the AeroGarden can support multiple plants in each Seed Pod.

Don’t let this happen!
If your plant is curled inside the Dome, it was left on too long. Immediately remove Dome.

Never remove Labels. They promote germination, inhibit algae growth and identify your plants.
**Add Water**

There should always be water in the Bowl of your AeroGarden. For instructions, see the “Add Water Using a Spouted Container” section in your Quick Setup Guide.

- Use room-temperature water. Very hot or very cold water will hurt your plants.
- We recommend using municipal tap, bottled or distilled water. Well or softened water SHOULD NOT be used because the extra minerals in these sources may be harmful to aeroponically grown plants.

**Raise Lamp Hood (Light[s])**

As your plants begin to grow, you should provide 1-2” (2.5-5cm) of space between the top of plants and the light(s).

For instructions, refer to the “Raise Lamp Hood (Light[s])” section in your Quick Setup Guide.

If Grow Bulb(s) are too close to plants, the leaves may brown and burn. If they are too far away, your plants will “stretch” toward the light(s) and look unhealthy.

**Feed Garden**

Every 2 weeks you will need to add Liquid Nutrients to the Bowl. Follow instructions for feeding on the Liquid Nutrient Packaging. Add nutrients directly into water bowl.

Note: We recommend checking for bugs every time you add nutrients. See Troubleshooting on page 12 of this Guide for details.

**Keep Your Garden Healthy**

Keeping a watchful eye on your Garden is not only a joy, but also a smart way to make sure your plants stay healthy.

As your plants grow, you may see some dead or brown leaves around the base of your plants. This is perfectly normal.

- Remove these leaves with scissors or pinch off with your fingers.
- Keep Grow Surface clear of dead leaves.

Quick Setup Guides available at: www.aerogardensupport.com
Harvesting Your Garden

After approximately 3 weeks, you can begin harvesting your Salad Greens!

• Remove whole leaves by cutting the base of leaf with pruning shears or household scissors, or by gently pinching off with your fingers.

• Spread your harvesting evenly across your Garden. You can continue to harvest up to a third of the leaves every few days. Leaves will be replaced by new growth.

• After harvesting lettuce, lower Lamp Hood if necessary (see Quick Setup Guide for instructions).

Do not remove more than a third of the leaves from any single Seed Pod at one time.

Quick Setup Guides available at: www.aerogardensupport.com

Plant Problems & Remedies

These pictures show plants from a Salad Seed Pod Kit that are stressed. Follow suggestions to restore your Garden’s health.

Wilted
Plants are not getting enough water. Check water level.

Burned
Plant is too close to Grow Bulb(s). Raise the Lamp Hood.

Curled Inside Dome
Dome was left on too long. Immediately remove Dome.

Bolting
Plant is at end of productive growth period and has long stalks growing from plant base. Harvest entire plant by cutting at base.

Quick Setup Guides available at: www.aerogardensupport.com
Questions & Answers–Light(s)

Do I need to turn light(s) on and off manually? No. Your AeroGarden includes a built-in timer that turns your light(s) on and off at specific intervals. These intervals are designed to maximize the growth of lettuce plants. The timing system started as soon as you plugged in your AeroGarden.

Does it matter what time of day the light(s) go off? No. It makes no difference to the plants when your light(s) go on and off. Some people like to have them turn off when they go to bed and come on in the morning when they wake up. Others prefer to use the AeroGarden as a nightlight.

Can I change the time of day the light(s) go OFF? On select models – yes. If it is possible to change the time your light(s) go off, instructions will be found in a section titled, “Personalize Your Light Timer” in the Quick Setup Guide.

Set Your Light Timer

Your AeroGarden has light(s) and a built-in timer that automatically provide your plants with the optimal amount of light needed to grow an abundance of healthy greens.

If the option is available to set the light timer* on your AeroGarden, you will find instructions in the “Personalize Your Light Timer” section of your Quick Setup Guide.

What do I do when a Grow Bulb burns out?
Replacement bulbs can be ordered from your retailer or at www.aerogardensupport.com.

What should I do if my Grow Bulb(s) aren’t working?
Make sure Grow Bulb(s) are firmly inserted in the Lamp Hood. Also check that your Garden is plugged into a working electrical outlet and the Lamp Cord is plugged into the Lamp Hood.

What if I see bugs?
Although leafy green plants are rarely attacked by bugs, it is good to know what to do just in case.

If you see bugs, they probably found their way into your home by hitching a ride on clothing or cut flowers. They are clever about hiding under leaves and in the joints between leaves and plant stems, so they can be difficult to see at first.

Initial signs that you have bugs are either your plants look unhealthy or you may see a sticky substance on your AeroGarden’s Grow Surface.

This is the easiest way we’ve found to get rid of bugs:

1. Unplug AeroGarden and remove the Bowl from the Base.
2. Carefully lift entire Seed Pod and plant out of the Grow Surface.
3. Turn plant upside down in a sink and gently run room temperature water over the underside of leaves to rinse bugs off.
4. Check your plant for any remaining bugs – rinse again if necessary – and then return plant and Seed Pod to the AeroGarden.
5. Check all surrounding plants to make sure bugs haven’t spread. If they have, follow the above steps with any other buggy plants.
6. Replace Bowl on Base and plug in AeroGarden.

How do I take care of my Garden when I go out of town?
Add water to raise the level up to “Fill To Here.” A newly planted Garden with Domes removed may not need care for up to 2 weeks. However, if your Garden is mature and you will be out of town

My Salad Greens don’t look healthy. What can I do?
If you are concerned about the health of your Garden, please go through the following…

• Keep light(s) as close to plants as possible, without leaves touching the Grow Bulb(s).
• Replace Grow Bulb(s) every 6 months (see Quick Setup Guide for model-specific instructions).
• Follow the harvesting instructions on page 8.
• Don’t use softened or well water.
• Make sure your garden is in a location that is not too hot (70°F or 21°C maximum).
• Only harvest up to 1/3 of each Seed Pod every few days.
**Troubleshooting (Continued)**

for several days, we recommend that you make arrangements for someone to care for your Garden while you are away.

You may want to set your light(s) to go on at night for added home security while you are away. If this option is available, it will be in the “Personalize Your Light Timer” section in your Quick Setup Guide.

**What do I do when my Garden has completed its growth cycle?**

For step-by-step instructions regarding the care of your AeroGarden after plants have stopped growing, refer to the “Prepare for your Next Garden” section in the Quick Setup Guide.

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**Replace Bulb(s)**

Grow Bulb(s) should be replaced after 6 months of use, unless you have an LED model which have a 3-5 year life span. See “Replace Grow Bulb(s)” in your Quick Setup Guide for replacement instructions.

*Replacement bulbs can be ordered from your retailer or at [www.aerogardensupport.com](http://www.aerogardensupport.com).*