

Oyster Kit Instructions

**KEEP YOUR KIT OUT
OF DIRECT SUNLIGHT!**



Kit Care

- Place your kit in a moist location of your house - by the sink in the kitchen or a basement works best
- Spritz the holes on the outside of your bucket twice daily until you see “pins” forming (see right picture)
- When pins begin to form, increase watering to three or more times/day. Spritz the developing oyster mushrooms, as well as the rest of the holes as before.
- Your oysters may develop larger



than you think; we recommend that beginners harvest while the caps are still slightly downward pointing (see bottom cluster in the picture below), as it ensures a meaty texture to your oyster, a good second flush, and less of a spore load. Experienced growers may enjoy experimenting with harvesting smaller “baby” mushrooms for consistent and prolonged fruiting, or allowing oysters to achieve full maturity (CAUTION: SPORE LOAD!). See top and left pictures respectively.



2nd and 3rd Flushes

Your second flush should produce roughly half of the volume of mushrooms than the first. Rotate the spawn within the bucket after the first flush - this allows the prior holes to heal faster and exposes fresh mycelium to the air (You may have to pull out the entire myceliated block from the bucket to achieve this). Allow the kit to take a brief break from watering, about a week or so. Start spritzing your kit as before, until you observe a second offering. Oftentimes you can get a third fruiting from your bucket, though at this point your time may be better spent reusing your bucket and spawn (see below)

Reusing Your Bucket

- Boil enough straw to fill your bucket. 1 hour at 160-170 °F is enough to pasteurize the straw
- Drain straw until it barely drains a drop when squeezing - at least an hour or so. Skipping this step can result in anaerobic conditions that will lead to failure



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- Remove the spawn from your kit, and place in a sterile trash bag. Leave residual spawn to encourage regrowth
- Put a 1" layer of sterilized straw on the bottom of your bucket and compress it with your fists
- Add a ½" layer of myceliated straw spawn, compress again
- Repeat layering and compressing until the bucket is full
- Finish with one last layer of straw - you want to struggle just a little bit to get the lid on, because it ensures that there are less air pockets in your bucket
- Allow bucket to colonize for one to two weeks in a cool humid part of the house, and then follow instructions as before



Reusing your spawn



- Consider reusing your bucket (as above)
- Soak twice the volume of straw as you have spawn for a bed, or boil and drain for best results
- Lay down a 1" layer of straw
- Add a ½" layer of myceliated straw spawn on top, spread around thoroughly
- Continue adding layers of straw and spawn until you run out of spawn

- Add a final layer of straw at a depth of 2" to both feed the mycelium and protect the remaining straw from drying conditions
- Water the area thoroughly, on top of and around the straw bed you've created



- Water bed only once/week during hot spells for best colonization
- Wait patiently for a harvest - they come quickly, yet predictably, following the rain!