

## HOW TO REVIVE THE DRY START

The [Brochure](#) available for download here is a historical document. It is a lightly edited version of the brochure that Carl sent out with starter. The instructions in the brochure work just as well as they always have. However, with the fresh start that we are sending out, we have found that potato starch, from potato water or dry granules, and sugar are not necessary to reconstitute the starter. Plain white flour and water will do just fine. None of the recipes need commercial yeast with a healthy starter and it can be omitted.

### **Following is a method to revive the start that I like better than the one detailed in the brochure:**

1. Get a small container. Begin with one tablespoon of lukewarm water, stir in 1/2 teaspoon of your starter and let stand for a few minutes to soften the start granules. Then mix in one tablespoon of flour. Depending on the flour, you may need to add an additional teaspoon or two of water. You want the mixture to be like a pancake batter.
2. Place in a warm place 70F - 85F or 21C - 29C. When the mixture gets bubbly, put it in a little larger container. Then stir in 1/4 cup of water and 1/4 cup of flour. When that mix rises up add 1/2 cup of water and 1/2 cup of flour. When this bubbles up, you will have about one cup of very active starter that is ready for use or storage in your refrigerator.

The time between refreshments will depend mainly on temperature. You can expect the first sign of starter activity to take from four to 12 hours.

### **Tips:**

- o I use the baby formula wrist test to judge the temperature of the water. A few drops on your wrist should feel neither warm nor cold.
- o A baby food jar and an 18-ounce peanut butter jar work well for the small and large containers.
- o Established starter will do fine in any room temperature that is comfortable for humans. Warmer room temperature is helpful when reviving start, but do not go over 85F or 29C if at all possible. Cooler temperatures just extend the time required. If room temperature is under 68F, I find a warmer spot such as the top of my refrigerator or a cold oven with the light on.
- o Vigorous stirring of the mixture from time to time will slightly shorten the time between growth stages, but is not

necessary for success. I use this method to test start before shipping and just stir enough to mix the ingredients.

**Note:** If your starter doesn't bubble within 12 hours, just go to the second step and add more flour and water.

Some tap water has too much chlorine so filtered water can be helpful. Keep adding flour and water every day

until it bubbles. Old starters can take a week of this to revive so don't give up until then.

The starter grows best between 70F - 85F or 21C - 29C. The starter is sensitive to high temperatures and will die.