



CARING FOR YOUR ADULT BUTTERFLIES

BUTTERFLY WINGS N' WISHES LTD
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Butterflies can go 5 days* in the box before requiring feeding. These instructions are for those who have to keep their butterflies for longer than 5 days. If your release event is further away, you will need to rehouse your butterflies to an enclosure and provide them with food.

**Count these from your SHIP DATE: that will be when they were packaged, so that is when the clock starts.*

REHOUSING YOUR BUTTERFLIES

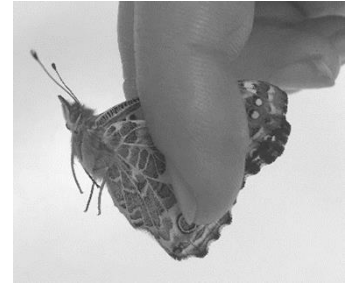
You will need to handle the butterflies. Do this while they are cool, such as fresh from the fridge. When cool, they are sluggish and slow to escape. It's advisable to do this in a closed space, where it's easier to recover escapees.

Setup:

- Wash your hands. You may wear gloves if desired, especially if you have a severe shellfish allergy.
- If you have respiratory ailments, a shellfish allergy, or are sensitive to particulates in the air, we suggest applying an N95 mask. N95s have a tight enough weave to protect from butterfly scales.
- Set up your flight cage/enclosure.

Work with them one at a time:

- Grasp the butterfly gently between the wings by pinching the leading edge between your first and second finger (*see picture*). Head should be pointing away from your first knuckle. This immobilizes their wings and they can be transferred carefully.
- Moving quickly and carefully. Use a firm but gentle grip, which will lower chances of harming the wings. Don't twist or break the wings, butterflies cannot heal their wings.
- It is a myth that simply touching lepidopteran wings will harm them. It will remove some of their exterior wing scales, which are attached to membrane like a bat wing. The scales give them their outer camouflage so handling should be limited, but controlled, safely conducted contact is not dangerous providing the wing is not mechanically damaged.



Please be aware that you are working with living animals. They are small. You do this at your own personal risk. If you feel uncomfortable with following these handling suggestions, you must instead try to release your butterflies within the suggested 5 day timeline so that they do not starve.

FEEDING THE ADULTS:

Mist the adult butterflies daily with water for hydration. They will drink right from the surface of the enclosure, you will see the little curly proboscis come out of their cute butterfly faces.

A feeding vial for your adult butterflies has been enclosed in an accessory baggie with paper towel. It has a lid with an x-shaped cut in it. To make a feeding station:



- Using the provided piece of paper towel or a clean piece of similar size, push it through the lid hole; about 3-5 cm should protrude from each side.
- Make the food: a solution of **water mixed with 5% sugar**. Mix it well.
- **Gatorade** is also fine (they like red).
- They also love licking juice from fresh fruit slices such as watermelon or orange.
- Do not use honey.
- When you put the lid back on the now full cup, you create a "wick:" the paper towel sucks the liquid up so your adult butterflies can land and drink.
- The slight sugar content of the liquid will ensure your butterflies are happy and healthy. Use

only table sugar, which is made to a high standard and has been researched for health and safety of butterflies.

Leave them for minimum 3 hours to feed. They can be rehoused into the boxes by cooling them down and reversing the rehousing step, or you can release them right from an enclosure.

Butterfly Wings N' Wishes respectfully acknowledges that we operate on Treaty 6 territory, a traditional gathering place for diverse Indigenous peoples whose histories, languages, and cultures continue to influence our business, our way of life, and our community.

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