Mushroom Grow Kit 1200ml, Dutch Style MycoBox XL, Simplici-kit

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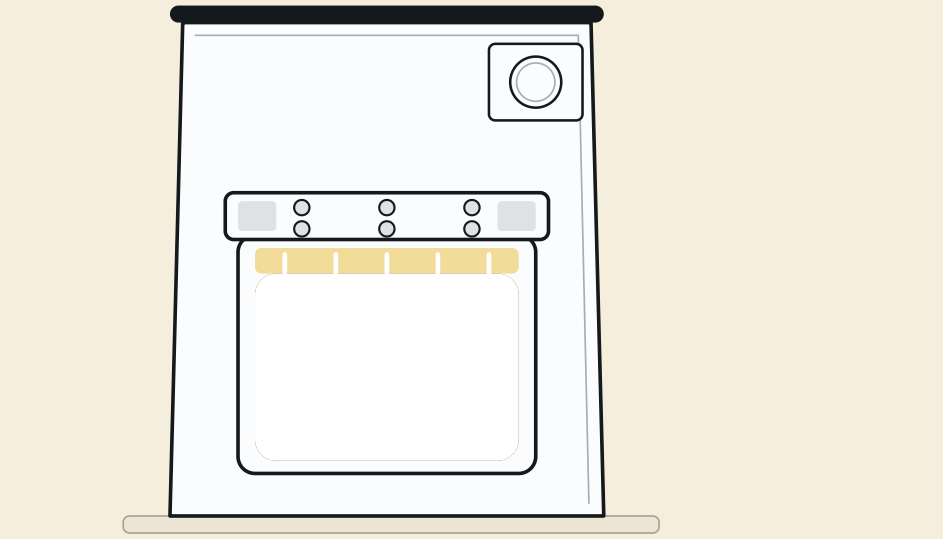
HOW THE BOX IS INOCULATED AND COLONISED



Day 28

1 Gloves on, work on the base shield. Never heat or wipe the needle: it arrives sterile

2 Slide the sealer stick aside and open the bag

3 Needle on in place of the cap; shake for 10 seconds; protector off

4 Six quick injections, one through each port in the lid

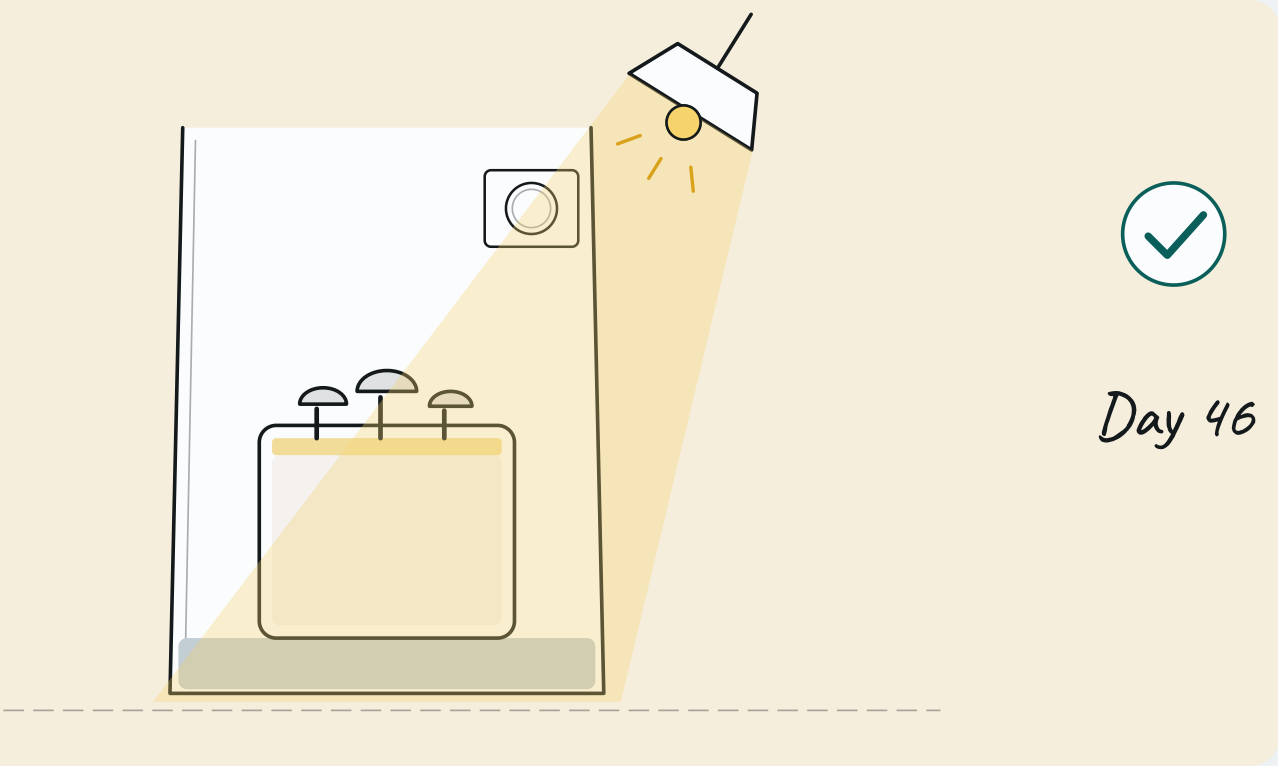
5 Fold the bag closed as it was; stick back in place

6 Tilt it like a slide for 10 seconds, change the angle, repeat: the culture runs through the grain

7 White points show after the injection and grow to cover the whole substrate: dark, 22 to 23 °C, four to six weeks

8 Day 28: white through and just into the vermiculite, the moment to fruit; not before, not after

HOW THE BOX IS FRUITED AND HARVESTED



1 Lid off: the box stands on the perlite in its grow bag, 150 ml of water in the base; dim light, 22 to 23 °C

2 Mist the four inner sides, not the cake, until they glisten like dew

3 Clip the top closed; 24 hours

4 Open the top and fan the droplets off: that starts the pins

5 Three checks a day: droplets on the cake, fan 60 seconds; dry, mist the sides and fan

6 Pins 10 to 14 days in; more mist-then-fan cycles give denser pins

7 Mushrooms over the next days; humidity high, keep fanning

8 Cut at the base when the caps start to open, before the veil breaks; never twist

9 Next flush: fill the box with water for 24 hours, drain it on its end, back to the checks

About Mushroom Grow Kit 1200ml, Dutch Style MycoBox XL, Simplici-kit

A reusable 1200 ml Dutch Style MycoBox of sterilised rye grain, sealed inside its grow bag with 250 ml of perlite so the whole kit arrives sterile and ready to inoculate through the six self-healing ports in the lid. A self-contained box for new and experienced growers, colonised and fruited in the same bag; sold without spores or culture.

What it is

The Dutch Style MycoBox XL is a self-contained grow box with a 1200 ml capacity, fully sterilised, ready to use and reusable once the cake is spent. The lid carries six self-healing injection ports, offset to spread the growth points more evenly, and two micron filter strips so the growing mycelium can breathe while contamination is kept out. Between the lid and the grain sits an anti-contamination layer of vermiculite, which also helps with fruiting, so leave it in place. The box and the perlite are put inside the XLS grow bag before sterilisation, which means the sealed bag and everything in it can be treated as sterile and the injection ports do not need wiping before inoculation. The kit suits the newer auto-fruiting methods; the instructions below are for manual fruiting.

What is included

Alcohol swabs are not sent with this kit because the injection ports arrive sterilised. Spores and liquid culture are not included.

- Reusable XL 1200 ml Dutch Style MycoBox, sterile, filled with rye grain and topped with vermiculite
- Two micron filter strips in the lid
- Six self-healing injection ports in the lid (do not remove them unless changing them for reuse)
- XLS grow bag containing 250 ml of perlite, used later as the fruiting bag
- Glove pack with a polythene base shield to work on
- Easy glide sealer stick, which seals the bag during sterilisation; remove it only when you are ready to inoculate

How to inoculate and colonise

Put on the gloves and work on the base shield. Never heat or wipe the needle; the needles we send are already sterile.

- Unscrew the black cap from the syringe, open the needle packet and screw the needle on in its place, leaving the protective cap on the needle until you are ready
- Slide the easy glide sealer stick to one side and open the bag
- Shake the syringe for 10 seconds, then remove the needle protector
- Divide the liquid culture between the six ports
- Fold the bag closed as it was and slide the sealer stick back in place
- Tilt the tub like a slide for 10 seconds, then change the angle for another 10 seconds and repeat, so the culture moves through the grain (the Gravity360 method)
- Keep the kit at 22 to 23 °C so the mycelium colonises the rye grain; full colonisation takes 4 to 6 weeks from injection
- Do not remove the protective lid until the box is fully colonised and white and you are ready to fruit

How to fruit and harvest

Fruit when all the grain has turned white and the mycelium is just starting to grow through the vermiculite; do not wait for the vermiculite to be overgrown, because overgrown mycelium forms a skin and will not fruit properly. Keep it at 22 to 23 °C and add a source of light; dim lighting works best. The XLS grow bag becomes the humidity tent: pour 150 ml of water into the perlite in its base and stand it in a well lit spot out of direct sunlight, at 22 to 23 °C.

- Mist the four inner sides of the bag, not the cake surface, until the exposed surface glistens with fine droplets like dew
- Close the bag, seal the top with a paper clip or similar and leave it for 24 hours; the surface should still be covered in tiny droplets
- Open the top and fan fresh air in to evaporate the droplets; this triggers the pins to form
- Check the bag three times a day: droplets on the cake, fan for 60 seconds and close; too few droplets, spray the inner sides again and fan for 60 seconds; water pooling on the surface, tip it off and fan for 120 seconds three times a day until it has evaporated
- Tiny dots appear 10 to 14 days after starting the fruiting cycle and grow into mushrooms over the following days; keep humidity high and keep fanning, as more spray-then-fan cycles give denser pins. Some strains take as little as 4 days or as long as 21
- Ease back on moisture and fan more if the mushrooms develop fuzzy feet; add moisture but keep fanning if the caps look dry or cracked

- Harvest when the caps start to open and the thin veil between stem and cap begins to break, and before spore drop, which shows as a sudden black sooty covering on the cake
- Cut mushrooms free close to the base of the stem rather than twisting them out, which can damage the cake surface and weaken later flushes; the small stumps disappear under new growth on the next flush
- Growth of any colour other than white may be contamination; contact us before going further
- For the next flush, pour water into the tub, leave it for 24 hours, drain it on its end for about 10 minutes and repeat from the three-times-a-day check; a damp cake takes longer to fruit
- The cake keeps flushing until the food is exhausted or contamination sets in; then discard the cake, keep the box and lid, and refill and sterilise it yourself to reuse
- Dry fruits for storage at 70 °C in a dehydrator for 48 hours

Capacity	1200 ml
Substrate	Rye grain, topped with vermiculite
Injection ports	6 self-healing, offset
Filters	2 micron filter strips in the lid
Perlite	250 ml in the XLS grow bag
Colonisation	4 to 6 weeks at 22 to 23 °C
Temperature	22 to 23 °C for colonisation and fruiting

Injection rules

Almost every contaminated bag we have ever replaced went wrong in the thirty seconds between opening the syringe and finishing the injection. The syringe, the needle and the bag all arrive sterile; the job is to keep them that way for those thirty seconds. These are the rules our sterile guarantee asks you to follow, and they apply to gourmet liquid cultures and spawn bags alike.

Rule 1: never heat, flame or wipe the needle

Every needle arrives gamma-irradiated sterile in its own wrapper, and the syringe casing and end cap keep the contents sterile. Flaming a needle leaves soot and a hot tip that kills what it touches; wiping it with alcohol drags whatever was on the wipe onto the one part that goes inside the bag. Use the needle straight from the wrapper. There is a sticker on every bag saying the same thing.

Rule 2: seat the needle properly

A loose needle is the other big cause of contamination. Push the needle hub onto the Luer lock and give it a quarter turn until it stops. It should not wobble. If it does, take it off and seat it again before you go anywhere near the bag.

Rule 3: work still, not clean

You do not need to sterilise the room. You need still air. Close the windows and doors, turn off fans and heating, and wait a minute for the air to settle. Wash and dry your hands, then keep them away from the needle. A still air box helps but is not required for a bag with a self-healing port.

Rule 4: go through the port, once

Every bag has a self-healing injection port. Push the needle through the centre of the port at a slight angle, inject, and withdraw in one movement. Do not inject through the plastic beside the port, do not make a second hole, and do not open the bag to "check" the grain.

Rule 5: how much, and where

Use the amount the product page for your bag gives, and inject all of it in one place. Do not move the needle tip about inside the bag and do not wind the needle round in the port: that can damage the port. The liquid is spread afterwards, not with the needle. An Inject-and-Forget bag is mixed straight after injection. A grain-based bag is tilted so the solution runs across the whole base of the bag.

Rule 6: wipe the port, and nothing else

Every bag comes with a small alcohol swab. Just before you inject, wipe the injection port with it, once, and give it a few seconds to dry. That is the only thing on the outside of the bag that gets wiped: not the needle, not the rest of the bag, and nothing afterwards. The port reseals itself; do not tape over it and do not wash the bag.

Rule 7: one syringe, one job

A syringe is a single-use item. Draw from a fresh syringe for each strain or culture, cap it if you have to pause, and do not put a used needle back into a sterile bottle.Spare needles can be added at the basket.

What happens next

The bag goes somewhere warm and dark and stays sealed until it is fully colonised. That part is covered by the incubation rules. Follow both sets of rules, buy the syringe and the bag together from us, and if the bag still contaminates before it is opened for the first time, the sterile guarantee replaces it.

Psilocybe cubensis spores sold on this site are supplied for microscopy and taxonomy only; germinating them is illegal in the UK and they are not for use with any growing product. These rules are written for gourmet liquid cultures.

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Incubation rules

Once the bag is injected, the work is done and the waiting starts. Our spawn bags and all-in-one grow bags are made to stay sealed from injection to first harvest, so the incubation rules are mostly about resisting the urge to help. These are the rules our sterile guarantee asks you to follow after the injection rules.

Rule 1: keep it sealed

Do not open the bag, cut the bag, or add anything through the port after the injection. The filter patch lets the bag breathe; nothing else needs to. A bag opened "to have a look" is no longer a sealed bag, and it is no longer covered by the guarantee.

Rule 2: warm, dark, still

Put the bag out of direct light, where it will not be moved or knocked, at the temperature for its type: 22 to 23 °C for a grain-based bag (the 50/50 all-in-one bag, the LightBag, the SprinkleBags and every rye grain spawn bag), and 26 to 27 °C for the brown rice flour Inject-and-Forget bags. Grain-based systems are kept cooler so the grain layer at the base does not dry out. An airing cupboard, the top of a wardrobe or a heated incubator all work; the LightBag is made to colonise in dim light, the others prefer dark. Do not put a bag on a radiator, on a heat mat with no thermostat, or in a window: mycelium that goes past 28 °C stalls, and hot bags sweat, which is what contaminants like.

Rule 3: mix on the schedule, not before

An Inject-and-Forget bag is mixed well, through the plastic, on the day it is injected. That same-day mix is the reason Inject-and-Forget bags work so fast. A grain-based bag is the opposite: leave the grain where it landed, and only break it up and shake it after day 10, once the spores have germinated. After any mix, leave at least five days before the next one so the mycelium comes back healthy. Shaking a grain bag before day 10, or mixing more often than every five days, breaks the early growth and spreads whatever else is in there. When you do mix, mix well: knead the bag through the plastic, not a little shake.

Rule 4: wait for full colonisation

White mycelium spreads from the germination points and joins up. In a grain-based bag you see it first on the bottom of the bag, where the solution ran. An Inject-and-Forget bag that was mixed straight after injection shows hundreds of germination points all through the substrate. A bag is ready when the grain is white all the way through with no yellow, brown or grey patches. That takes two to four weeks for most gourmet species at the right temperature, longer if the room is cool. Slow is not the same as failed.

Rule 5: know what contamination looks like

Green, blue-green, black or pink patches, a wet grey slime, or a sour smell through the filter patch are contamination. White fluffy growth, small drops of yellow-brown liquid on the mycelium and a mushroom smell are not. If you are unsure, photograph the bag against a plain background in daylight and send it to us before you do anything else; the contamination guide has pictures.

Rule 6: when the bag is fully white, move on

A grain bag is fully colonised when every grain is covered in mycelium. For a spawn bag, that is the moment to mix it into bulk substrate for a monotub or bag-tek, with the substrate calculator giving the quantities; a grain bag is not fruited without a bulk substrate or a casing layer. A fruit-from-the-bag system is usually ready to fruit by day 20 on our mixing schedule: mix first on day 10, again on day 15 and again on day 20, then place it into fruiting conditions, still sealed until the product page says to open it. Opening the bag for the first time is where the guarantee ends and the growing begins.

If something goes wrong

Contamination before the first opening, on a bag and syringe bought together from us and handled by these rules, is covered by the sterile guarantee. Send the claim form with photographs of the whole bag, the injection port and the filter patch, and your order reference, and we will replace it.

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