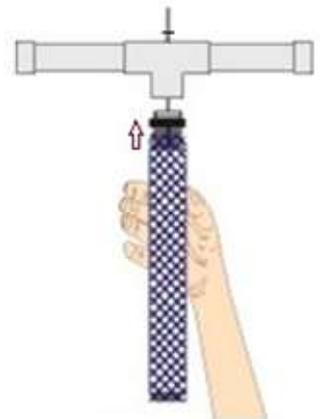
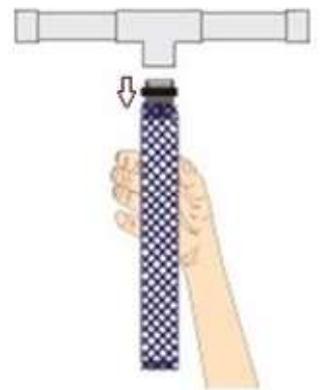
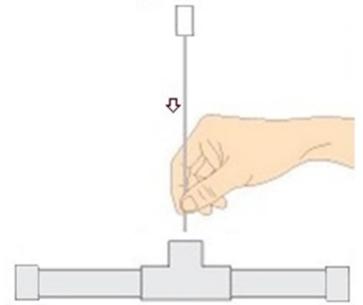


Home Culture System Assembly Instructions

Unpack all loose items from inside the culture kit's bucket.

Setting up of air feed for Culture Kit.

1. Remove hard acrylic tube, with air stone attached, from the inside of bucket by carefully peeling off the sticky tape attached.
2. Attached to the opposite end of the acrylic tube is a small piece of airline tubing, carefully slide this off and set aside for later.
3. Remove the central post of the t- section and feed the acrylic tube through the middle hole.
4. While carefully aligning the end of the acrylic tube, which is poking through the t- section, with the hole on the underside of the culture bucket's lid and push the t-section into the already attached holding clamps.
5. Feed the acrylic tube through the lid until the black mark on the tube is visible above the bucket lid.
6. Push the small piece of airline tubing, removed earlier, back onto the acrylic tube and slide it down to this black mark. This will hold the acrylic tube at the correct length in the tube.
7. Slide the central post over the air stone and acrylic tube and press it firmly back into the t-section.
8. Place the lid on the bucket and attach one end of your airline to the acrylic tube.
9. Cut two pieces of airline tubing, each 100mmn length, from the other end.
10. Attach the end of one of these 100mm length pieces onto one of the air outlets, and its other end to the one way valve making sure the side that says **OUT** is facing away from the pump.
11. Attach the second 100mm piece to the **OUT** side of the valve and its other to the base of the air control valve. Finally, attach the other end of the airline, from the acrylic straw, to the other end of the control valve.



Home Culture System

Cycling kit prior to receiving live culture.

12. Squeeze some of the detritus from one of your working filter sponges into the bucket. (*Even wiping the sponge against the inside of your bucket is useful at this stage for both saltwater and freshwater. The bacteria growing in the filter is needed to seed the new filter floss in the culture bucket. The 4 bacteria species in the culture feed will start the waste break down process for the system and prime the culture system*)
13. Now fill the kit with water from your tank, to a height of just below the bucket's handles.
14. Turn on the air pump and verify under the lid to make sure the bubbles are going up the centre pipe and that completes the air fitting.
15. If needed the heater can be placed into the bucket, either on the base or on the side, using the suction cups to hold it in place.
16. Set the temperature as per the instructions for your particular species. Unfortunately, we have not yet found a neat way for the power lead to come out of the bucket.
17. Now your culture bucket is assembled.

Notes:

When you are going to add water to your culture here are a few tips;

- Use the water from your tank
- Add just enough food to discolour the water.
- Don't kill the culture by over feeding, as this is how 80% of cultures crash.
- Put 10% of your culture into a second bottle as a backup. 2 is even better 😊

Home Culture System Harvesting Instructions

1. Once you receive your culture of live goods, put them into the bucket and feed them. (*You will need to keep an eye on them for the first few days to ensure adequate feeding*).
2. After waiting 3-4 days you should place a bright torch against the side of the bucket 100mm from the bottom you should be seeing your culture critters moving towards the light and in front of the light.
3. If not, something is not right. Check all the parameters below. If nothing is obvious please email sales@aquaticlivefood.com.au and I will try my very best to assist you.
4. If there are critters in the light you can start harvesting them.
5. Siphon where I have advised for the specific type of zooplankton you have below.
6. Always use a sieve when siphoning to collect the critters, I also recommend a second finer sieve under the harvest sieve to catch any eggs, instar or juvenile zooplankton.
7. Try and work out the amount of live food that you will need to be using.
8. If the kit is not large enough start a second culture and harvest alternatively.
9. If you only need live feed for a short period from time to time there are a few ways for this work
*see below.
10. After siphoning out what you need to use replace the water and food.

- **Air Flow:** Minimum of 1.5 -2lpm (litres per minute)
- **Salinity:** 1.020 – 1.025
- **Temperature:** Normally cooler than the tank they will be going in.
- **pH:** Neutral for the water type
- **Ammonia:** Nil
- **Feed Rate:** Depends on species and stocking density
- **Harvest:** What your needs
- **Water Changes:** 20%-30% daily

Notes:

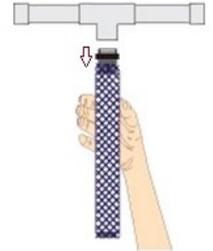
Always have one or two small cultures going when you first start culturing as most people kill the cultures with love (over feeding). This is the number one way to kill cultures.

For batch culturing; in between batches you can use 2L pickle jars to keep the culture/s going in maintenance mode until large numbers are needed. Reduce the temperature feed a little less, reduce any lighting.

Home Culture System Maintenance Instructions

1. Water changes if not harvesting

After the first 4 days it will be time to do your first water change. Siphon off or use a jug to remove 20-30% of the water. Pour it through your sieve and return the contents to the main culture. Once every week or two as needed or as indicated below you will need to do a 90% water change.



2. Disassemble the HCS

Turn off the air and detach the airline from the acrylic straw. Remove the straw keeper. Remove and clean the straw and the air stone.

3. Clean Filter Floss

Unclip tee section from the lid or just remove the centre filter post and wash under a tap, and shake off excess water.



4. Brush the Bucket

Brush the interior surfaces of the bucket and remove all detritus etc. sticking to the sides and bottom of the bucket. Once clean spray with 70% isopropyl alcohol or a 20% bleach & water mix (let the bleach sit for 20min) then rinse twice and ensure there is no smell of chemical substance. Once clean refill with clean water (saltwater or freshwater) at the required parameters.



5. Reassemble the centre post

Attach the centre post to the Tee section and re-clip into position with the acrylic straw in its place and the keeper in the right position. Attach the airline and you are almost ready.

6. Feed Culture

Now add in the amount of feed that you have established is needed.

