

AeroGarden™

# Gourmet Herb



## Tending & Harvesting Guide

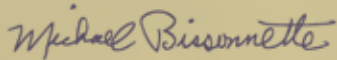
Planting Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Welcome

Thank you for your purchase of our AeroGarden. We have spent years developing and refining our technology to create a growing system that assures you will have a pleasurable and successful year-round gardening experience.

I sincerely hope you enjoy your AeroGarden and sharing your healthy harvest with your family and friends.

Best Regards,



Michael Bissonnette  
Founder and CEO  
AeroGrow International, Inc.



# CONTENTS

---

## Your AeroGarden

AeroGarden Features. . . . .	3
Seed Kit Features. . . . .	4
Smart Garden Control Panel Features. . . . .	4

## Tending Your Garden

Herb Garden Timeline. . . . .	5
Remove Domes. . . . .	7
Add Water. . . . .	8
Feed Garden . . . . .	9
Raise Lights . . . . .	10
Keep Your Herb Garden Healthy . . . . .	11
Special Tips for Purple and Italian Basil. . . . .	13
Plant Problems and Remedies . . . . .	15

## Harvest Your Garden

Harvesting Your Herbs. . . . .	16
Herbs Galore! . . . . .	23

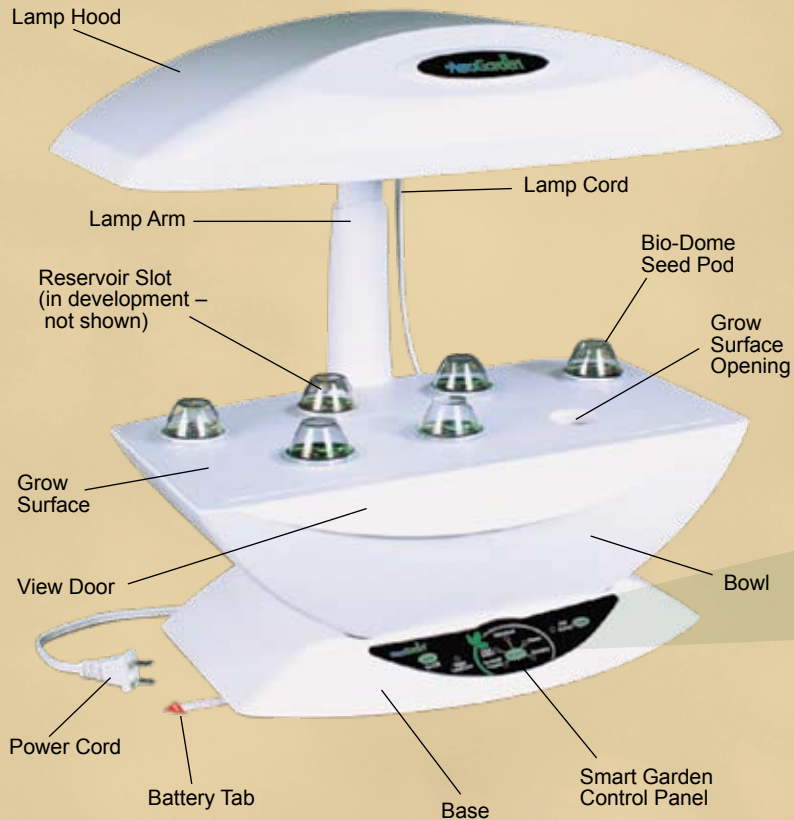
## Appendices

Reminders About Planting Your Garden . . . . .	27
Questions and Answers About Your Nutrients . . . . .	29
Questions and Answers About Your Lights . . . . .	30
Setting Your Light Timer . . . . .	31
Troubleshooting . . . . .	33
Preparing for Your Next Garden . . . . .	36

*Whoever*  
plants a garden  
plants happiness.

– CHINESE PROVERB

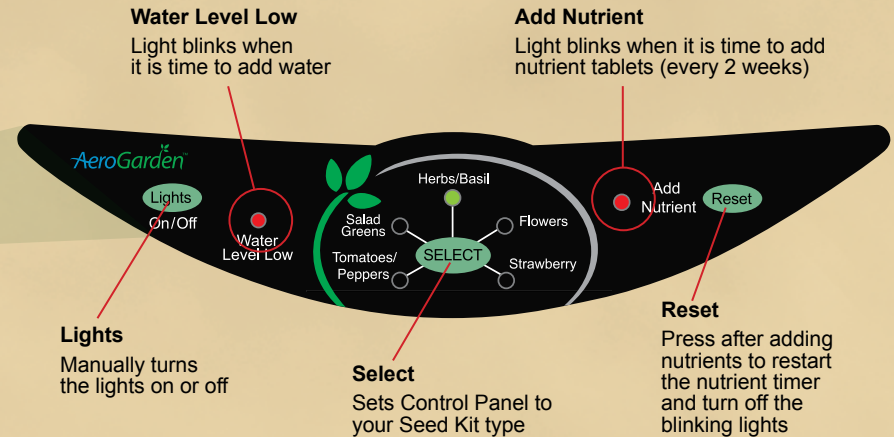
## AeroGarden Features



## Seed Kit Features



## Smart Garden Control Panel Features



# Tending Your Garden

A little bit of care for your Garden will ensure rapid growth and bountiful harvests. You will start to see sprouts in a few days. In just a few weeks, you will experience the transformation of your seeds into seven varieties of aromatic and flavorful herbs ready for your table.

Please take a moment to review this section shortly after planting your Garden (see page 27 for *Reminders About Planting Your Garden*).



Check that your *Bio-Dome Seed Pods* are in the same position on the *Grow Surface* as they appear in the *Seed Kit Tray*. We find that this arrangement gives the plants optimal spacing and light exposure.

## Gourmet Herb Garden Timeline

Your herbs will germinate in just a few days. You will see them grow very quickly after that.



After 2 weeks



After 4 weeks



After 6 weeks



After 8 weeks



## Remove Domes

- A few days after planting your AeroGarden, tiny plants will appear through the center hole in the *Label* on each *Seed Pod*.

When this occurs, remove the *Domes* from each *Seed Pod* and discard or recycle. Do not remove the label!



- Remove the *Domes* only from *Seed Pods* with emerging plants.
- You do not need to thin your herb plants as your AeroGarden can support multiple plants in each *Seed Pod*.

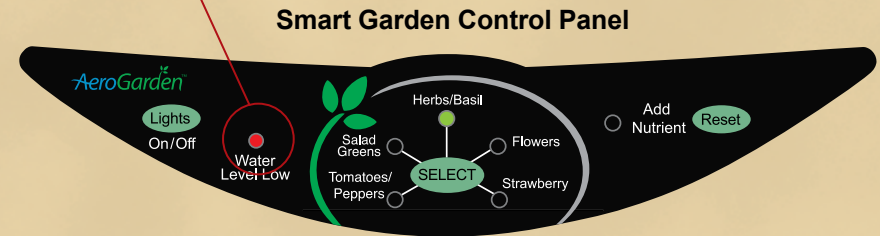


Each *Seed Pod Label* indicates the number of days until your seeds sprout.

! Never remove the labels. They promote germination, decrease algae growth and identify your plants.

## Add Water

- When additional water is needed, the “Water Level Low” light on the *Control Panel* will blink. Add water to raise the level up to “Fill To Here” inside the *Bowl*.
- It is okay to add water up to “Fill To Here” before the “Water Level Low” light blinks.
- When your herb plants mature, they may need water as often as twice a week. Be sure to check the “Water Level Low” light regularly.



- Use room-temperature water. Very hot or very cold water will hurt your plants.
- ! We recommend using municipal tap, bottled or purified water. Well or softened water SHOULD NOT be used because the extra minerals in these sources may be harmful to aeroponically grown plants.
- NEVER mist the plants in your Garden. *Water could shatter the Grow Bulb glass.*

## Feed Garden

Every 2 weeks, both the “Add Nutrient” and “Water Level Low” lights will blink on and off.

### First Feeding After Planting

- 1 Add the 2 nutrient tablets from the blue bag labeled “Sprouting Nutrients”.



### All Other Feedings

- 1 Add 2 nutrient tablets from the clear bag labeled “Growing Nutrients” and reseal the bag.



### Every time you add nutrient tablets be sure to:

- 2 Add water to raise the water level to “Fill To Here” in the Bowl. This will ensure that the nutrients do not become too concentrated.
- 3 Press the “Reset” button to restart the nutrient timer and turn off the blinking lights.

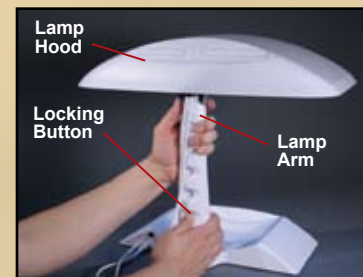
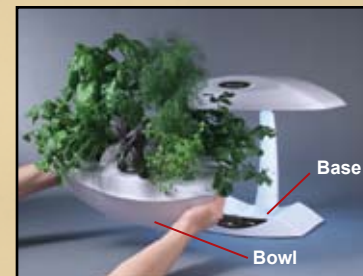
*Note: We recommend checking for bugs every time you add nutrients. See Troubleshooting on page 34 of this guide for details.*

## Raise Lights

As your plants begin to grow, leave approximately 1-2 inches of space between the top of plants and the lights. Before raising lights, make sure that your plants are the same height (*refer to “Pinch Basil Plants” on page 14 of this guide for details*).

### To raise the lights:

- 1 Unplug the AeroGarden (the backup system will save your settings).
- 2 Carefully remove the Bowl from the Base and set aside.
- 3 Turn the AeroGarden around so the back of the Lamp Arm is facing you.
- 4 Firmly hold the lower section of the Lamp Arm and push in the Locking Button on the Arm. With your other hand, grasp the silver ring at the top of the Arm (where the Lamp Hood attaches to the Arm). Pull up firmly on Lamp Hood until the Locking Button becomes visible in the next hole. Move Locking Button up only one hole at a time. The lights need to be close to the plants for optimal light intensity.
- 5 Replace the Bowl onto the Base and plug in your AeroGarden.
- 6 Lift the View Door to check that the water is flowing. If not, refer to Troubleshooting on page 35 of this guide.



! If the Grow Bulbs are too close to the plants, the leaves may brown and burn. If they are too far away, your plants will “stretch” towards the light and look floppy and unhealthy.

## Keep Your Gourmet Herb Garden Healthy

**Keeping a watchful eye on your Garden is not only a joy, but also a smart way to make sure your herbs stay healthy.**

As your herbs grow, you may see some dead or brown leaves around the base of your plants. This is perfectly normal.

- Remove these leaves with scissors or pinch off with your fingers.
- Keep the *Grow Surface* clear of dead leaves.

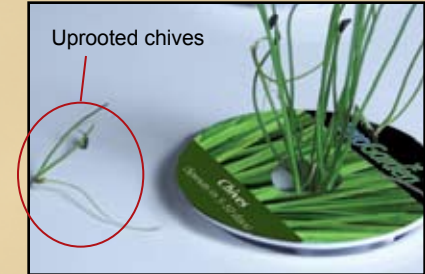


### Uprooted Chives

You may see chives that look like they're "jumping out" of the *Seed Pod*.

*This is not actually a problem. Sometimes the delicate roots of chives don't anchor properly in the grow sponge.*

There are many chive seeds in each *Seed Pod*, so you will still have a bountiful bunch of chives.



## Special Tips for Purple and Italian Basil

### Pruning 3- to 4-Week Old Basil Plants

About 3 to 4 weeks after planting your Garden, it is time to prune the young basil plants to encourage the plants to branch out. Plants with many branches will produce large quantities of basil. Remember, all your basil clippings are edible, so enjoy the fresh sprigs!

From the base of the basil plant follow the main stem up past 3 sets of leaves.



- Cut the main stem just above the 3rd leaf set.



The photo at right shows how your plant should look after this first pruning.



### Pinch Basil Plants (Ongoing after 4 weeks)

**Pinching will help your plants grow full and yield larger quantities of basil.**

- Initially, your basil plants will grow taller than the other herbs in your Garden. Pinching back the basil will allow you to keep the lights close to the other slower growing herbs, providing them with the intense light they need to grow.
- Pinch basil plants just above the uppermost set of leaves (the growth points) at the top of stalks every week. *Use these clippings in your favorite basil recipe.*



### Prune Basil Flowers and Flower Buds

If you see flowers and/or flower buds on your basil plant, remove them.

- Cut back the flowering/budding stalk just above a set of leaves no more than halfway down the plant stem.

*This may seem drastic, but pruning your plant will actually stimulate growth and help the basil maintain excellent flavor.*



*Note: A slight amount of browning on older basil leaf edges is normal.*

## Plant Problems and Remedies

These pictures show plants that are stressed. Follow the suggestions to restore your Garden's health.



### Wilted

Herbs are not getting enough water. Check water level.



### Burned

Herb plant is too close to the *Grow Bulbs*. Raise the *Lamp Hood* or prune the plant.



### Curled Inside *Dome*

*Dome* was left on too long. Immediately remove *Dome*.



### Bolting/Flowering

Herb plant is at end of productive growth period when it begins producing flowers. To extend the life of your herbs remove all flowers when they appear.

## Harvest Your Herbs

**About 5 weeks after planting your Garden, you can begin harvesting your herbs.**

Harvest your herbs with pruning shears, household scissors, or by gently pinching off with your fingers. Following the harvesting tips below will help keep your plants productive and healthy.

### Harvesting Advice for All Herbs

- Do not remove more than a third of the leaves or stems from any one plant at a time.
- Continue to harvest up to a third of the herbs on each plant per week. The leaves and stems will be replaced by new growth.
- Harvest just before using for the best flavor.
- As you harvest, try to keep the plants at about the same height so that they all receive enough light.
- After harvesting your herbs, lower lights, if necessary. (See "*Raise Lights*" on page 10.)

The Garden at right is about 8 weeks old and was last harvested a week ago. Already, each of the plants is ready for another harvest.

(Turn to page 22 to see this *Garden after harvesting*.)



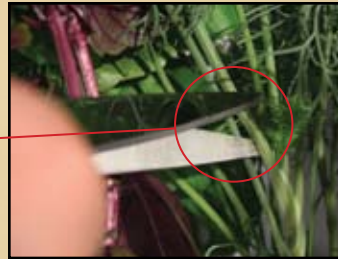
## Harvest Your Herbs *(Continued)*

### Harvest Dill

Harvest dill where two stems join (termination point).



- Find the termination point by looking near the base of the dill plant.
- Cut the widest of the two stems.



*This is what your dill plant might look like after harvesting.*



#### *Dill Hint...*

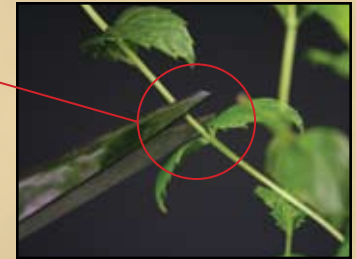
*The stems are so tender that you can use the entire sprig. Chop dill with a knife or scissors.*

### Harvest Mint

- Harvest the outer most stems and any branches that are shading other plants, as well as the tallest stems that are growing into the lights.



- Cut mint just above a set of leaves (growth point) and not more than half way down the stem.



*This is what your mint plant might look like after harvesting.*



#### *Mint Hint...*

*For cooking, pick off (and use) the leaves from the cut stem. Use the entire sprig (stem and leaves) if you are adding mint to a drink.*

## Harvest Your Herbs (Continued)

### Harvest Cilantro and Parsley

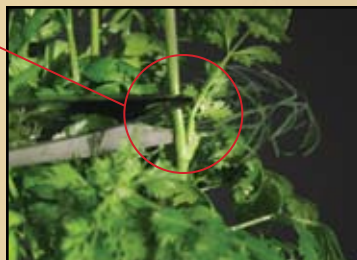
Harvest cilantro and parsley near the base of the plant, cutting an entire stem – just the stem, not the entire plant!

*Cilantro shown before harvest.*



- Select the oldest stems, found near the outer edges of the plant. These stems are generally wider than the younger ones and the leaves may have some yellow around the edges.

Also, remove stems that shade other plants in your Garden.



*This is what your cilantro plant might look like after harvesting.*



#### *Cilantro and Parsley Hint...*

*Pick off the leaves that you want to use from the cut stem or use the entire top part, as the stems near the top are quite tender.*

### Harvest Chives

When chives start to hang over the edge of your Garden and grow up into the lights, it's time to harvest.



- Gather up all of the chives and hold them with one hand. With the other hand, cut no more than 1/3 of the way down from the tips. *The tips will continue to grow and the plant will also produce new shoots after harvesting.*



- Entire stem can also be used by cutting at the base.

*This is what your chives might look like after harvesting.*



#### *Chives Hint...*

*Use scissors to "chop" chives directly into whatever you are cooking*

## Harvest Your Herbs *(Continued)*

### Harvest Purple and Italian Basil

*Purple Basil is shown in the photos, but the instructions apply to Italian Basil as well.*

To keep your basil plants productive and flavorful, focus your harvesting on the following 3 areas...



### Large Leaves

- Cut or pinch off large leaves that shade the lower parts of the basil plant. (This harvest will yield just a few leaves.)



### Basil Stems

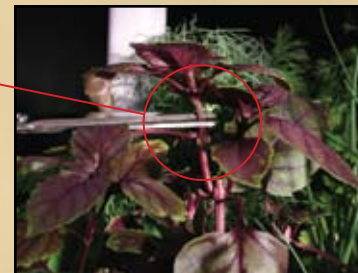
- For larger quantities, and to keep the basil plants bushy, cut stems just above a set of leaves but not more than half way down the stem. Never harvest more than 1/3 of the plant at any one time.

*Select branches that shade other plants in your Garden.*



### Uppermost Leaves

- Continue weekly pinching of the uppermost leaves of basil plants (See "Pinch Basil" on page 14).



*This is what your basil plant might look like after harvesting.*



The Garden at right is the same 8-week old Garden shown on page 16. This photo illustrates the amount of fresh herbs you could harvest.

*Notice that the Lamp Hood needs to be lowered to bring the lights closer to the plants.*



## Herbs Galore!

### *H*erbal Improvisations

- Basil with tomatoes (Caprese)
- Dill sprinkled on soup
- Chives with sour cream
- Mint in iced tea
- Cilantro added to salsa
- Parsley with potatoes
- Any herb is great in salads

### *H*erbal Hints

- When using fresh herbs in a recipe calling for dry herbs, use 3 times as much fresh herbs as the recipe calls for.
- Add fresh herbs to stocks, soups, and stews just before serving, and taste how much richer the flavors are at the table.



Mint in Iced Tea



Caprese

### *C*aprese

A traditional Italian combination of tomatoes, fresh mozzarella and fresh basil. Serve with crusty bread or focaccia.

- 4 ripe fresh tomatoes, sliced
- 8 oz. Mozzarella cheese, thinly sliced
- 1/3 cup fresh basil leaves
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- salt and fresh ground pepper to taste

Layer sliced tomatoes and sliced cheese. Sprinkle with basil. Drizzle with olive oil and season with salt and pepper. Serves 4

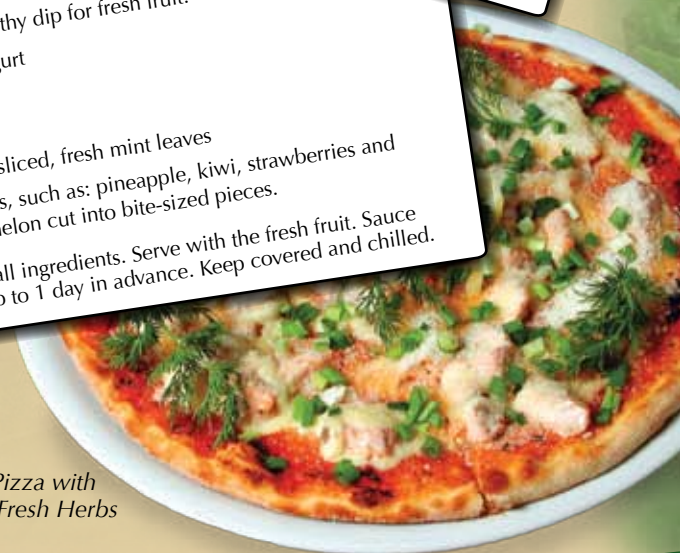
### *V*anilla Mint Yogurt Sauce

A delicious and healthy dip for fresh fruit.

- 1 cup plain yogurt
- 2 tsp sugar
- 1/8 tsp vanilla

2 Tbsp thinly sliced, fresh mint leaves  
Assorted fruits, such as: pineapple, kiwi, strawberries and honeydew melon cut into bite-sized pieces.

Whisk together all ingredients. Serve with the fresh fruit. Sauce may be made up to 1 day in advance. Keep covered and chilled.



Seafood Pizza with Assorted Fresh Herbs

## Herbs Galore!



Salsa with Cilantro

### Quick Pickled Cucumbers with Fresh Dill

A refreshing and tangy salad or side dish.

1-1/2 lbs cucumbers, unpeeled, very thinly sliced	1/4 cup finely chopped fresh dill
1 Tbsp coarse kosher salt	3 Tbsp sugar
1/2 cup distilled white vinegar	1/2 tsp black pepper

Place cucumber slices in colander. Sprinkle with salt; toss to coat. Let stand 15 minutes, stirring occasionally. Meanwhile, for dressing, stir vinegar, dill, sugar and pepper in large bowl until sugar is dissolved. Drain cucumbers well; pat dry. Add cucumbers to dressing and stir to blend. Refrigerate at least 15 minutes and up to 2 hours; serve cold. Makes 6-8 servings

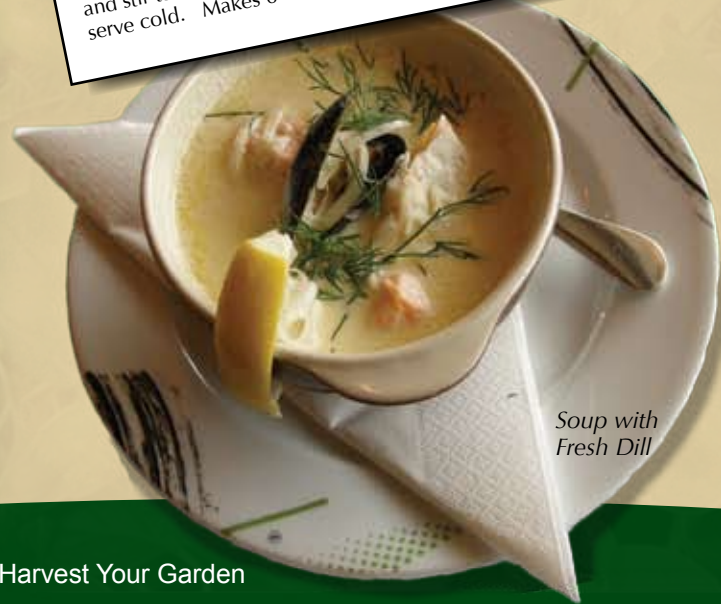
### Cilantro Salad

A surprisingly simple way to add a little pizzazz to an ordinary salad.

- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 2 Tbsp lime juice (fresh is best)
- 1 Tbsp grated, peeled fresh ginger

Whisk together olive oil, lime juice, and ginger in small bowl. Add salt and pepper to taste. Combine cilantro and mixed greens or fresh lettuce in large bowl. Toss salad with dressing to coat.

Serves 4



Soup with Fresh Dill



Chives with Sour Cream

# Appendices

## Reminders About Planting Your Garden

Please use the Quick Start Guide included in your original AeroGarden box for more detailed setup instructions. If you no longer have your Quick Start Guide, you can find a copy of it on our website at [www.aerogrow.com](http://www.aerogrow.com).

### Setting up Your AeroGarden

- 1 Is the *Lamp Arm* firmly inserted into the *Base*?
- 2 Are the *Grow Bulbs* firmly inserted into the sockets in the *Lamp Hood*?
- 3 Is the *Lamp Cord* plugged into the *Lamp Hood*?
- 4 Is the *Bowl* securely placed in the *Base*?
- 5 Is there water in your *Bowl* up to "Fill To Here"?
- 6 Is your *Lamp Hood* at the lowest level?

### Planting Your AeroGarden

- 7 Does the *Seed Pod* arrangement in the *Grow Surface* match the layout in the *Seed Kit Tray*?

- 8 Did you put a *Dome* on each *Seed Pod*?
- 9 Are the *Seed Pods* pressed firmly into the *Grow Surface* openings (until the rim of the *Dome* almost touches the *Grow Surface*)?
- 10 Did you add 2 *Starting Nutrient* tablets from the green bag in the *Nutrient Box* and press the *Reset* button?
- 11 Did you record your planting date on the cover of this guide?

### Starting Your AeroGarden

- 12 Did you plug in your AeroGarden?
  - Is the water flowing?
  - Are the *Grow Bulbs* on?
- 13 Did you select your plant type?



## Questions and Answers About Your Nutrients

### What is in the nutrient tablets?

AeroGarden nutrient tablets consist mainly of mineral salts. These provide the 13 micro and macro nutrients that all plants require, in just the right proportions for your herb plants. The tablets also contain:

- Seaweed for a boost of 70 micro nutrients and trace elements
- A buffer so you can use tap water for your plants without adjusting the pH
- A binder to hold the tablet together

### Are the nutrients organic?

The AeroGarden nutrient tablets are organic, according to current AAPFCO (American Association of Plant Food Control Officials) standards.

### Can I use leftover nutrient tablets from a different *Seed Kit with my Gourmet Herb Garden*?

No. The nutrient tablets are specially formulated for each *Seed Kit*. Using nutrient tablets from a different *Seed Kit* type may harm your herb plants and result in less than optimal flavor and growth.

### What happens if I run out of nutrients while my garden is still growing?

You can extend the life of your garden by ordering additional nutrients. Call (800) Grow-Now and select the Customer Service option.

## Questions and Answers About Your Lights

### Do I need to turn the AeroGarden lights on and off manually?

No. Your AeroGarden includes a built-in timer that turns your lights on and off at specific intervals. These intervals are designed to maximize the growth of your herb plants. The timing system started as soon as you plugged in your AeroGarden. Every day it will automatically turn your lights on for 17 hours beginning at that time.

### Can I change the time of day the lights go off?

Yes. To change the time your lights go off, follow the simple steps in “Setting Your Light Timer” in the next section of this guide.

### Does it matter what time of day the lights go off?

No. It makes no difference to the plants when your lights go on and off. Some people like to have the lights off when they go to bed and come on in the morning when they wake up.

Others prefer to use the AeroGarden as a nightlight.

Even if you place your AeroGarden in a sunny location, you can still set the lights to go on at any time. The natural light shining through a window is weak compared to the intense light provided by the *Grow Bulbs*.

### Can I change the number of hours the lights are on and off?

Only by selecting a different plant type on the *Smart Garden Control Panel*. The “Herbs/Basil” setting will keep your lights on for 17 hours and off for 7 hours, which is an ideal light cycle for rapid growth of tasty herbs.

### Can I temporarily turn off my lights?

Absolutely. Just push the “Lights” button and then immediately release to manually turn the lights off (or back on). This will not change any of the settings for your AeroGarden and your lights will turn on (or off) at the next regularly programmed time. Occasional use of this feature will not harm or slow the growth of your plants.

## Setting Your Light Timer

### Your Built-In Light Timer

Your AeroGarden has lights and a built-in timer that automatically provide your plants with 17 hours of “sunlight” and 7 hours of “night”, which is optimal for the healthy growth of herbs.

As long as your plants get this amount of light, it does not matter when the lights are turned off. You may find it convenient to have the lights go on in the morning and off at night to match your own wake and sleep schedule.

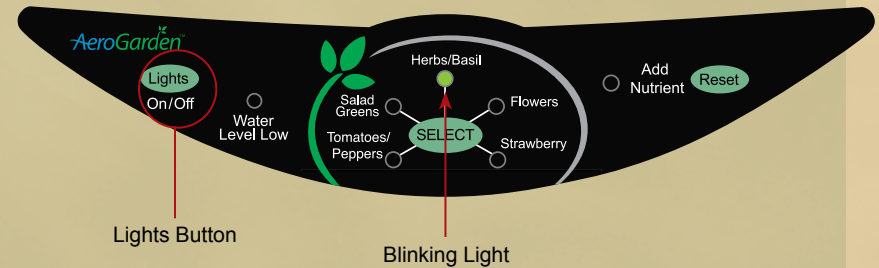
*Note: If the reflection from your AeroGarden lights is visible from your bedroom, you may want to set the lights to go off about the time you usually go to bed, so as not to disturb your sleep.*

### 5 Simple Steps...

In order to make this as simple as possible you only need to set the time you want the lights of your AeroGarden to go off (Off Time) and your built-in light timer automatically sets the On Time... nothing more for you to do.

#### Do the following at the time you want your lights to go off:

- 1 Decide what time of day you want the lights to go OFF.
- 2 *AT THAT TIME* check that the lights are on. If they are off, quickly press the *Lights* button and immediately release.
- 3 Press and hold the *Lights* button until the green light next to “Herbs/Basil” starts blinking – about 5 seconds.
- 4 Release the button.
- 5 When the blinking stops (about 9 seconds), the lights will go off. Your lights are now set to go off at this time every day.



#### Now, each day, your AeroGarden lights will automatically

- Turn off at the time you set using the steps on the previous page
- Remain off for 7 hours
- Turn on for 17 hours

#### You can reset your timer as often as you want.

*Note: In case of power failure, your AeroGarden has a back-up system that stores your light timer and plant selection settings. When the power is restored, your AeroGarden will go back to the Off-On cycle you have set.*

## Troubleshooting

### What do I do when one of my *Grow Bulbs* burns out or if I lose my nutrient tablets?

Replacement parts can be ordered from our website at: [www.aerogrow.com](http://www.aerogrow.com). You should replace your *Grow Bulbs* after 6 months of use.

### What do I do if I want to move my AeroGarden to another location?

Go right ahead! Your AeroGarden has a factory installed back-up battery that lets you unplug it without losing any of the settings.

To move your AeroGarden, be sure to pick it up by holding the *Lamp Arm* with one hand and sliding your other hand under the bottom of the *Base*.

### My Herb garden doesn't look healthy. What can I do?

If you are concerned about the health of your garden, please go through the following before calling Customer Service...

- Keep the lights as close to your plants as possible, without the leaves touching the bulbs.
- Follow the pruning and harvesting instructions in this guide (pages 11-22).
- Don't use softened or un-filtered well water.
- Don't harvest more than 1/3 of any single plant at a time.

### How long does the backup battery last?

The backup battery works for 6 months after activation. To replace it, use any CR2032 3-volt lithium battery.

### What do I do if I see bugs?

Occasionally bugs might decide to visit your herbs. If you see bugs, you will mainly see aphids, who usually find their way into homes by hitching a ride on clothing or cut flowers. Aphids especially seem to like Dill, Basil and Cilantro. Bugs are clever about hiding under leaves and in the joints between leaves and plant stems, so they can be difficult to see at first.

Initial signs that you have bugs are either unhealthy-looking plants or a sticky substance on your AeroGarden's *Grow Surface*.

To identify the bugs, we recommend you visit either [www.whatsthatbug.com](http://www.whatsthatbug.com) or the entomology (bug) department at Texas A&M University at <http://vegipm.tamu.edu/imageindex.html>.

This is the easiest way we've found to get rid of bugs:

- 1 Remove the *Bowl* from the *Base*.
- 2 Carefully lift the entire *Seed Pod* and plant out of the *Grow Surface*.
- 3 Turn the plant upside down in a sink and gently run room temperature water over the underside of the leaves to rinse the bugs off.
- 4 Check your plant for any remaining bugs – rinse again if necessary – and then return the plant and *Seed Pod* to the AeroGarden.
- 5 Check all surrounding plants to make sure the bugs haven't spread. If they have, follow the above steps with any other buggy plants.
- 6 Replace *Bowl* onto the *Base*.

*(Continued on next page)*

## Troubleshooting *(Continued)*

### How do I take care of my Garden when I go out of town?

Add water to raise the level up to “Fill To Here”. A newly planted Garden with *Domes* removed may not need care for up to 2 weeks. However, if your Garden is mature and you will be out of town for several days, we recommend you make arrangements for someone to care for your Garden while you are away.

You may want to set your lights to go on at night for added home security while you are away. See “Setting Your Light Timer” on page 31 for instructions.

### Shouldn't water always be flowing over my *Seed Pods* and plant roots?”

Yes and no. When you selected “Herbs/Basil” on your *Smart Garden Control Panel* you selected a setting that has been specially designed to optimize the growth of herb plants by regulating the flow of water to the roots of your plants.

On the “Herbs/Basil” setting, the AeroGarden moves water through the *Seed Pods* whenever the lights are on to achieve maximum growth and flavorful herbs.

If your lights are on and the water isn't flowing in your Herb Garden, please check the following:

- Is the *Lamp Arm* fully inserted into the *Base*? (see your Quick Start Guide, page 1, step 1C).
- Is the *Bowl* firmly seated in the *Base*? (see your Quick Start Guide, page 2, step 1G).
- If the water still isn't flowing, you may have a broken pump. Contact Customer Service at [www.aerogrow.com](http://www.aerogrow.com).

### What can I do to reduce the sound of water dripping from the *Seed Pods* into the *Bowl*?

Keeping the water level in the *Bowl* at “Fill To Here” will help reduce the sound of dripping water. As your plants grow and the roots reach the water in the *Bowl*, the dripping noise will go away.

## Preparing for Your Next Garden

After the final harvesting of your herbs:

- 1 Unplug the AeroGarden.
- 2 Carefully remove the *Bowl* and *Grow Surface* from the *Base* and bring to a sink.
  - Set the *Base* and *Lamp Hood* aside.

NEVER SUBMERSE BASE AND CONTROL PANEL IN WATER.
- 3 Remove the *Grow Surface* from the *Bowl* and place on a counter near the sink.
- 4 Empty contents of *Bowl* into sink.



*(Continued on next page)*

! Do not pour the water onto your houseplants. The nutrient mixture may be too concentrated for them.

## Preparing for Your Next Garden *(Continued)*

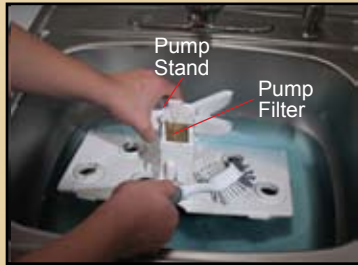
### 5 Remove *Seed Pods* and roots from *Grow Surface*.

- Pull the *Seed Pods* out of the *Grow Surface* openings.
- Throw away *Seed Pods* and plant debris (plant growth and roots). These cannot be reused. If you compost, the plant debris can be composted.



### 6 Rinse and clean the *Pump Stand* and *Pump Filter*.

- Use a soft scrub brush to clean tangled roots from the *Pump Stand*.
- Remove the *Pump Filter* from the *Pump Stand*. Gently scrub the roots from the *Pump Filter*.
- Place the *Pump Filter* back into the *Pump Stand*.



After cleaning, there may still be a few roots in your *Pump Stand* or *Pump Filter*. This will not affect the operation of your AeroGarden.

### 7 Clean the *Bowl* and *Grow Surface*.

- Use a soft cloth or sponge to thoroughly wipe the *Bowl* and *Grow Surface*. A mild soap may be used if desired, but rinse thoroughly.

### 8 Sanitize your AeroGarden.

- Fill *Bowl* 3/4 full with water.
- Add 1 cup of chlorine bleach (example: Clorox).
- Replace *Grow Surface* on *Bowl*, place *Bowl* on *Base* and plug in AeroGarden for 1-2 minutes.
- Unplug AeroGarden and empty bleach water from *Bowl*.
- Refill *Bowl* with tap water and replace on *Base*.
- Plug in and run AeroGarden for 1-2 minutes.
- Unplug AeroGarden and empty water from *Bowl*.

### 9 Towel dry the *Bowl* and *Grow Surface* before putting them back together and setting them back onto the *Base*.

### 10 Your AeroGarden is now ready for replanting.

### 11 If you are going to store your AeroGarden before replanting, remove the back-up battery from the underside of the *Base*. If you need to replace the back-up battery, use any CR2032 3-volt lithium battery.

Use only water and mild soap when cleaning your AeroGarden (except when Sanitizing - Step 8). Do not use abrasive cleaners or run through the dishwasher.



AeroGrow International, Inc.  
P.O. Box 18450  
Boulder, CO 80308

If you have any questions please feel free to contact our  
Customer Service Department at:

**[www.aerogrow.com](http://www.aerogrow.com)**

1-800-GROW-NOW (1-800-476-9669)