



Compostwerks Four Gallon Tea Brewer comes partially assembled. Here are the fast setup instructions:

Setup of Four Gallon Brewer

- 1) Remove the contents of the pail with the exception of the air diffusers. The air diffusers are attached with a short section of hose to the inside top of the pail.
- 2) Push the clear hoses at the end of each pump assembly into the black air fittings located on the outside top of the pail.
- 3) Center the air diffusers in the bottom of the pail. The porous side must face up. They may have shifted during shipping. Be sure the airlines are attached from the inside of the pail to the diffuser.
- 4) Stretch the mesh bag over the top of the pail. Start in one corner and work the elastic over the lip carefully. Some effort may be required the first time the mesh bag is being used. This is normal. The elastic should fit snugly around the part of the pail where the base of the lid rests. You may skip this step and choose to free float the compost without using the mesh bag.
- 5) Plug in the air pumps. As a precaution against the compost tea siphoning in the event of a power failure, place the air pump above the water level of the bucket. Make sure that the air pumps cannot accidentally fall into the brewer or other water sources.
- 6) Fill pail with water up to the black air fittings. If you add too much water, use a cup to remove the excess water. The water should be approximately 78 degrees, but not above 85 degrees as damage to the biology will result. You can a thermometer to attain the proper temperature.
- 7) Allow both pumps to run for 15 minutes before adding compost if your water source is chlorinated. This is enough time to volatilize this impurity from the water. Most municipal water sources add chlorine which will harm the organisms in your compost if you skip this step.

Blending of Ingredients

- 8) Add six measuring cups of Compostwerks! Premium compost into the mesh bag and dechlorinated water
- 9) Add three ounces of the food source into the measuring cup and into the mesh bag. Add slowly to reduce clumping. Stir the food source into water and mix.
- 10) Gently place the lid over the top of the pail. This will help maintain the temperature, and reduce splattering of the compost tea. If you are brewing indoors, be sure to place a towel or other protection beneath the pail.

Complete Brewing Cycle

- 11) Allow brewing cycle to continue for 12 to 24 hours. The maximum extraction will occur with the 24 hour brewing cycle.
- 12) Remove mesh bag off the lip of the pail. Do not unplug the air pumps. Squeeze out the liquid from the bag into the pail.
- 13) At this point, the compost tea can be dispensed into another container for your desired application technique. Strain the compost tea a second time if it is being used as a foliar spray. Use the tea right away in order to receive the maximum benefits.

Cleaning Instructions

Timely cleaning of your Compostwerks! tea brewer will extend the life of the components and help to reduce the buildup of detrimental bio film.

-Do not allow compost tea to dry on any of the components. Cleanup will be more time consuming if this happens, and will shorten the life of the diffuser.

-Invert the mesh bag and empty out the used compost. Do not discard this compost! Use it in your house plants, garden or return it into your compost pile. Rinse the mesh bag until it is free of compost particles. Some discoloration of the mesh bag is completely normal. Allow to air dry.

-Disconnect the air pump assemblies from the outside of the pail. Wipe hose and air pump assembly with a damp cloth or sponge.

-Disconnect the air diffusers from the inside of the pail. Scrub the diffuser with a soft bristle brush (an old tooth brush works quite well). Allow to soak in a 5% solution of vinegar or chlorine bleach whenever you suspect the formation of bio film.

-Clean the pail with a mild dish detergent. Some staining of the pail is completely normal. The pail is dishwasher safe.

-Allow all of the components to completely dry before re-assembly.

Application Precautions

-Compost teas will stain light colored surfaces such as paint, stone work, fabrics and other porous materials. Be sure to test a non-visible area before applying.

Precautions

Properly made compost teas are completely safe to apply and handle. Here is a brief list of things to watch out for:

-Staining. Compost teas are rich in natural organic compounds which are dark brown in color. Consider all surfaces before setting up the brewer or applying and handling. Some foaming and spattering during the brewing cycle is completely normal. Protect any light colored surface from the compost tea which you do not want to be stained.

-Bio film. Improper cleaning practices will result in the formation of detrimental organisms which can harm the biology in your compost teas. Be sure to promptly and correctly clean all components as outlined in the cleaning instructions.

-Electrical Hazards. The air pump supplied with the Compostwerks Tea Brewer is UL listed for the highest possible safety. It is not designed for very humid environments. Do not place air pump in a place where it could fall into a water source. If the air pump falls into water, electrical shock or damage to the air pump could result. Air pumps damaged by liquids are not covered under the warranty.

-Old Compost Tea. Be sure to apply the compost tea immediately upon completion of the brewing cycle. Do not apply compost tea to plant foliage that has been non-aerated for more than 3 hours. Anaerobic organisms may dominate the compost tea and may harm your plants. Do not apply compost tea if there are any objectionable odors. Good compost tea smells earthy, like good fresh mushrooms. A sulfur, rotten egg, sour milk, or vinegar odor indicates that anaerobic organisms have taken over. Discard this tea.

Using Compost Tea

Application to soils. Dilute the compost tea up to a 10:1 ratio (ten gallons of water to one gallon compost tea). Drench root zone of your plants. A watering can is ideal for this task. You may apply the compost tea in its concentrated form to the soil to plants needing an extra boost. Do not be afraid to wet the foliage of your plants with the diluted or concentrated form since soluble nutrients can be absorbed by the leaves. There is definitely a benefit to apply your teas in the early morning or (preferably) the evening especially during hot and dry periods since this will give the organisms the time to acclimate. If the soil is very dry, be sure to thoroughly irrigate before and after the teas have been applied, however applying before rain is anticipated can be ideal. Apply to soil at monthly intervals.

Application to foliage. As mentioned above, compost tea contains soluble nutrients which your plants will absorb through the foliage. Additionally, the biology in the compost tea may occupy infection sites where disease causing organisms may grow. Strain the compost tea through the mesh bag included with the brewer. Dilute the compost tea up to a 5:1 ratio (five gallons of water to one gallon of compost tea) and pour into a pump sprayer. Do not pour the sediment into the pump sprayer. Apply evenly to the top and undersides of the foliage every two weeks.

-Avoid wetting the foliage of *any* plants with *any* liquids during times if strong direct sunlight. Burning of sensitive foliage is a risk with any liquids. Avoid applying compost teas to foliage of leafy plants intended for consumption (for example, lettuce, spinach, collards) since the leaves may be discolored. This discoloration is harmless, but may be difficult to wash off. The water that is used to dilute the compost tea should also be free of chlorine. It's a good idea to fill some five gallon pails with water to use for dilution at the beginning of the brewing cycle. Twelve hours is plenty of time for the chlorine to vaporize in an open container.

Refill Kits

After five brewing cycles, you will need additional premium quality compost and food sources for your brewer. Compostwerks ingredients are optimized for use in this brewer and are available by ordering at info@compostwerks.com. Also visit our website at www.compostwerks.com. Payments made by check should be sent to the address below. Be sure to tell us exactly what you are ordering along with the number of kits you would like to have shipped. Shipping costs are additional.

Parts List

- 2 Air Pumps
- 1 Air fitting (splitter)
- Air tubing, 3/16th inside diameter
- 1 Pail, four gallon
- 2 Bags of premium compost
- 5 Bags of food sources
- 1 Mesh bag
- 2 Air diffusers
- 1 Scoop, four ounce

Warranty

Compostwerks! LLC warrants to the purchaser that this compost tea brewer will be free of physical defects in material and workmanship under normal use for a period of 3 months from the date of original purchase.

Compostwerks! LLC will be held harmless of any economic loss associated with the use of this product.

Keep all components of this product away from children.



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