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ALIEN[®]
THE EVOLUTION OF HYDROPONICS

SET UP INSTRUCTIONS



Follow this step by step guide to complete the installation of your system.

SYSTEM SET-UP

Position your pots in the desired area, ensuring they are evenly spaced and placed on a flat surface. The kit includes sufficient pipe for the following plant spacing: 15L pots should be spaced 50-60 cm apart and 30L pots at 60-75 cm apart.

Examples:

For a 16-pot 15L system: Arrange in a space of 2 x 2 m (50 cm centres) or a maximum of 2.4 x 2.4 m (60 cm centres).

30L 16 pot system – 2.4 x 2.4m (60cm centres) or max 3 x 3m (75cm centres).

Pipe lengths between pots:

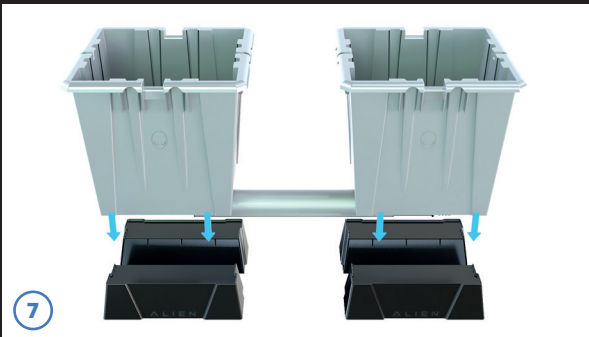
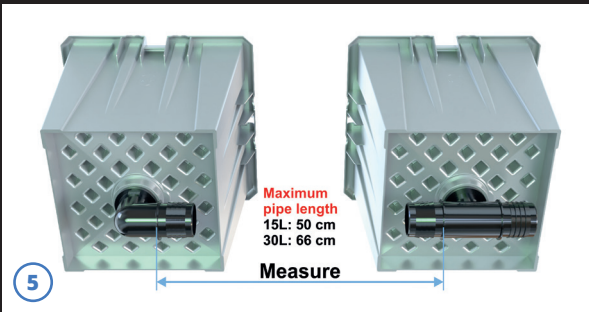
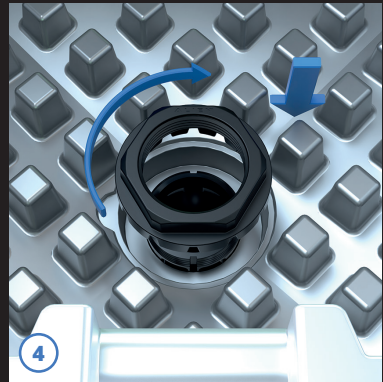
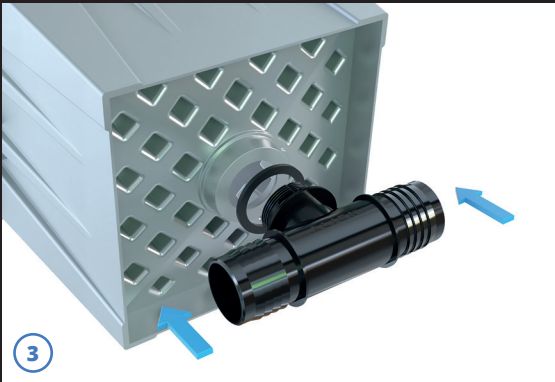
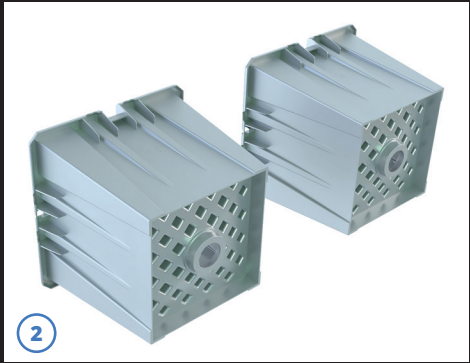
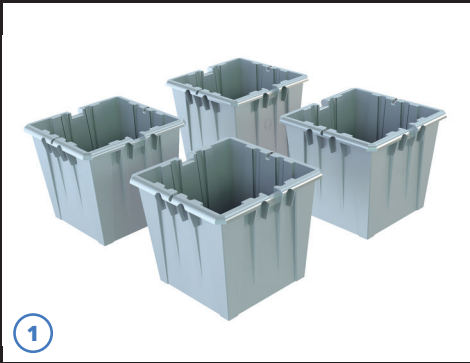
15L - 50cm plant centres = 40cm **30L - 60cm plant centres = 50cm**

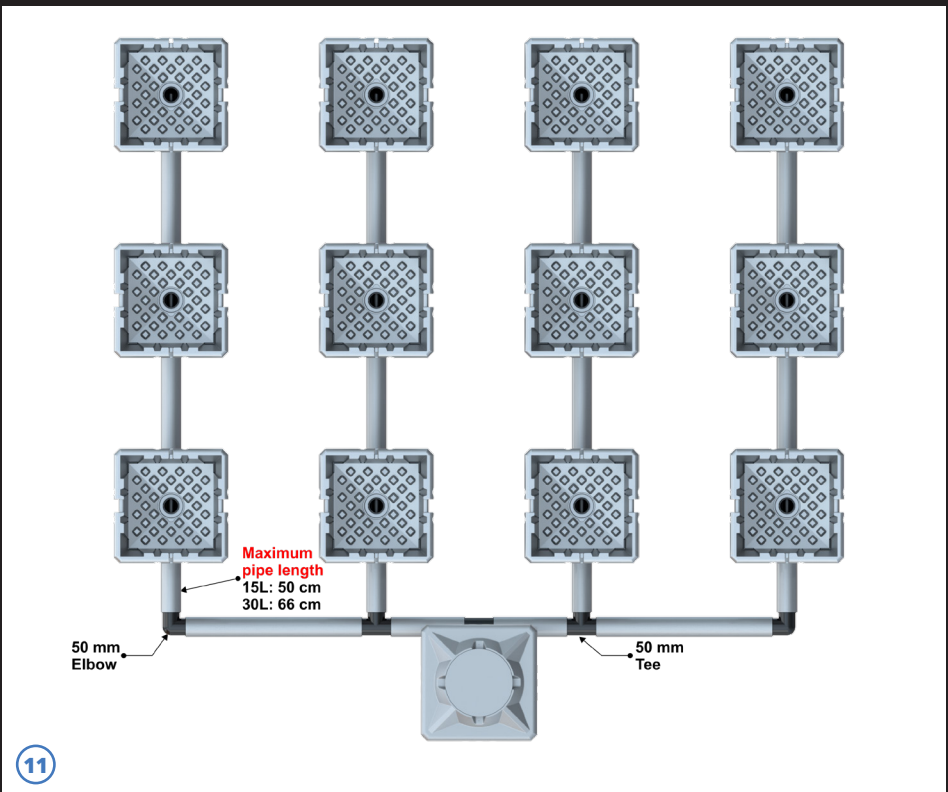
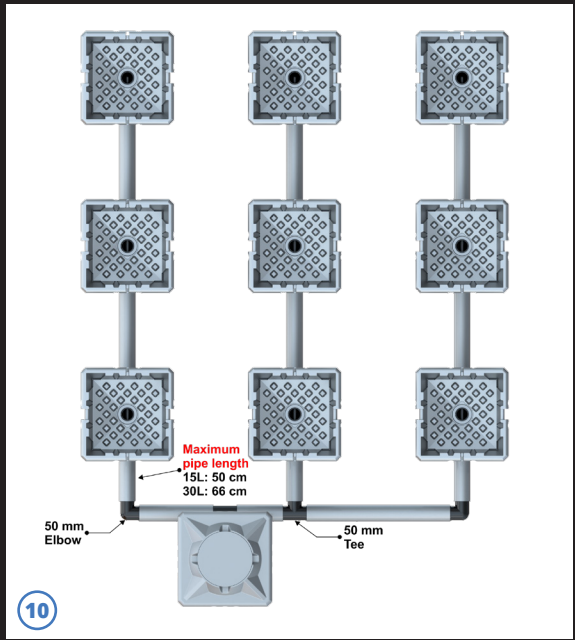
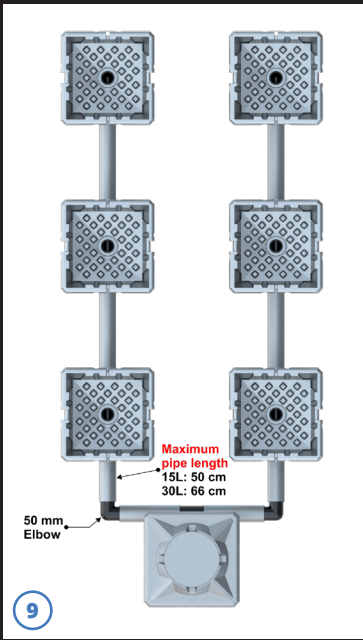
15L - 60cm plant centres = 50cm **30L - 75cm plant centres = 65cm**

- 1 Lay the pots on their side and insert the 50mm Dual-Flow™ fittings into the bottom holes. Make sure the rubber washer is positioned on the outside. Tighten the nut using the provided spanner. Use tees for all pots, except at the end of the line where elbows are required.
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 Measure the distance between the barbed fittings. Keeping in mind the maximum pipe lengths, cut and install the 50mm silver pipe. You can soften the pipe with hot water or a heat gun for easier handling.
- 6
- 7 Position a pair of stands beneath each pot. Ensure the pot is seated correctly on the stands.
- 8 Attach a tee or a straight to the header pot. You can place the header outside of the grow room if it is more convenient for your setup.
- 9 Consult the configurations for systems with 1-4 rows. Systems can have more than 6 rows if required however extra fittings may be required.
- 10
- 11 Connect the header to the pots using 50mm barbed tees and or elbows. If necessary, you can place the header further from the system however additional pipe may be required.

Header Pot assembly

- 12 Fit the 2 threaded connectors to the header from the inside. Tighten the nut using the spanner provided. Screw elbows on to the threads using washers on the inside of the fittings.
- 13
- 14 Install a water pump into the header. Connect to the elbow as shown using a section of pipe (for dual pump header refer to 17).





Float switches

- 15 To install the float switches, remove the nuts and attach the switches to the header pot with a silicone washer on the outside of the pot. **Ensure that the switch with the red cable is positioned at the bottom.**
- 16 30L systems use the higher hole for the top float switch and 15L uses the lower hole. Install the red plug to the remaining hole with the washer and nut. Tighten the nuts with the spanner. Both floats should hang downwards.

Header Pot Dual Pump

- 17 15L 60 to 100 pot and 30L 36 to 100 pot header pot configuration.

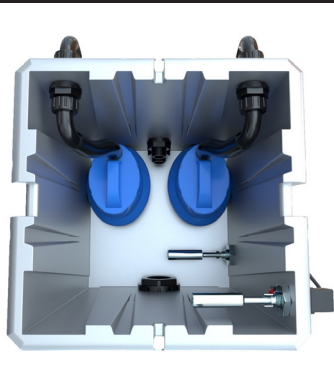
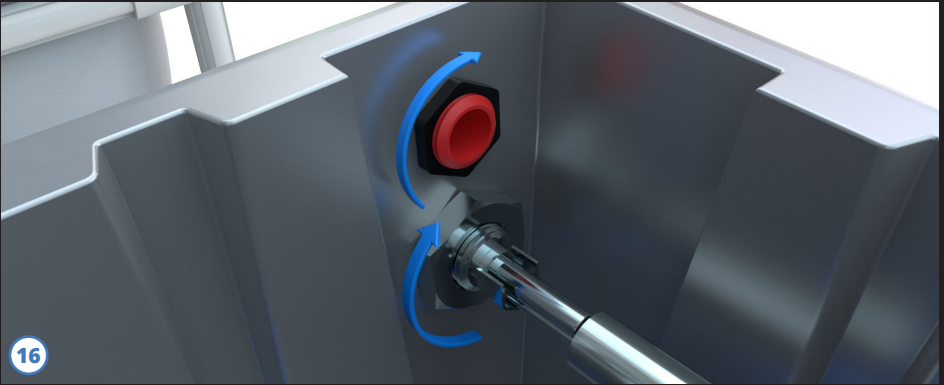
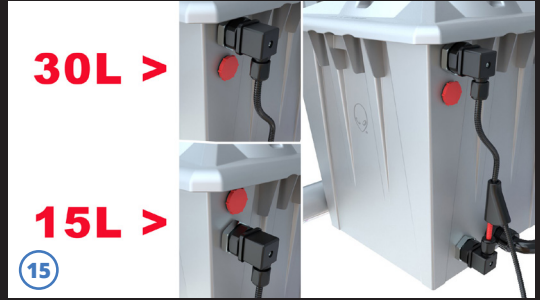
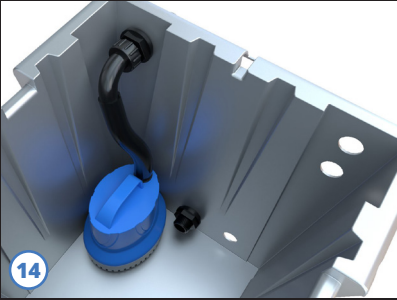
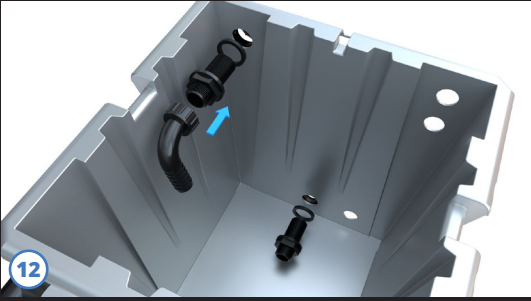
Tank Set-up

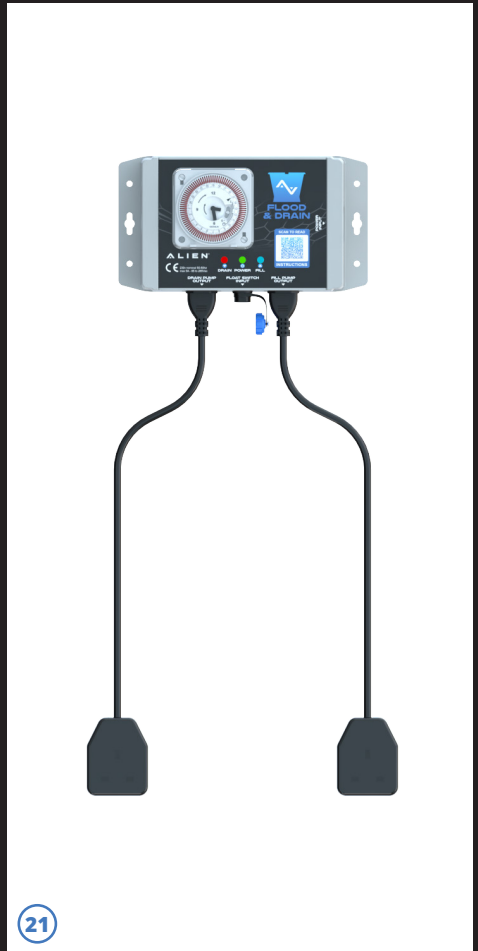
If you have the optional ALIEN® Water Tank assemble this using the instruction leaflet provided.

- 18 Fit the 19mm pipe to the barbed connector on the water pump. Use the hose clip provided to secure. Place the pump in the tank.
- 19 Install the siphon tees on the inside of the lid. Ensure the black drain pipe extends down into the tank to prevent drain water from splashing. Fit the 19mm elbows on to the pipes.
- 20 Connect sections of pipe between the tank and the elbows on the header. 2 pipe clips are provided. Blue pipe attaches to the lower elbow. Black pipe to the higher elbow which connects to the drain pump.

Brain Module

- 21 Select an appropriate location to mount the brain module. Keep in mind that the cable connecting the module to the header pot is approximately 3 meters long, so be sure to factor this into your positioning decision.
- 22 Plug the pump sockets into the two pump inputs on the brain module, and then secure them to the wall using the adhesive mountings provided. Connect the pump in the header pot to the "Drain Pump Input," and connect the pump in the water tank to the "Fill Pump Input." Connect the power cable to a mains outlet. Connect the Float switch cable to the "Float switch Input" on the brain module.





BRAIN MODULE USER GUIDE

FLOOD CYCLE

The **fill pump** is activated by the timer when a segment is pushed out. Each segment represents **15 minutes of pump activity** (fill time)

For all 15L systems, one segment is recommended.

30L systems **4 to 60 pots**, one segment.

For 30L systems with **80 to 100 pots**, two segments (30 minutes) is recommended to ensure proper flooding before draining.

FLOAT SWITCHES AND DRAIN CYCLE



As the water rises, it triggers the **top float switch**. After the water reaches this point, there is a **10-second pause** to allow water to even out across all pots.

After the pause, the **drain pump** starts, removing water from the system.



The drain cycle can also begin if the timer reaches a **pushed-in segment**, even without the top float switch being triggered. This ensures drainage occurs even if there is not enough water in the tank to fill the system.

IDLE PERIOD

During the time when no segments are pushed out (pushed-in segments), the system remains idle.

However, if the **lower float switch** detects rising water (e.g., due to run-off after draining), the **drain pump** activates to remove any excess water from the system between cycles.

FLOOD TIME ADJUSTMENTS

If required, you can adjust the number of segments (1 or 2) once you familiarise yourself with your system's flood cycle. Mediums such as **clay pebbles** may need a slightly longer flood time, while **soil** may require shorter periods. This is only relevant for larger systems.

MAINTENANCE TIPS

Make sure the **tank always** has enough water to fill the system, as running the fill pump dry can cause damage.

We recommend using **Root Rot X** every 7-10 days to help prevent pythium and maintain a sterile system (see back cover for details).



Keep a **spare pump** on hand to avoid disruptions in case of a pump failure.



The frequency of flood cycles each day depends on the medium and plant size. Here's a breakdown:

Soil

Soil is dense and retains moisture well.

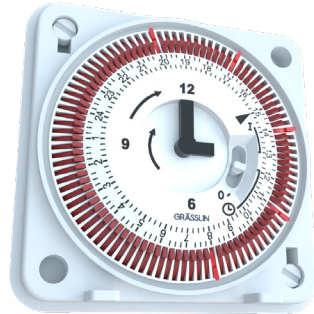
Typically, it only requires **1 flood cycle per day**.

Clay Pebbles

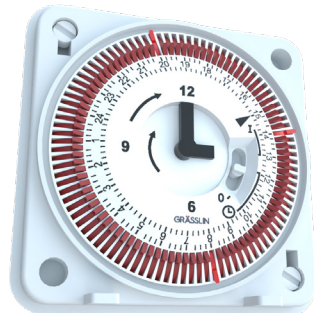
Clay pebbles drain quickly and don't retain water for long.

They generally need a flood cycle about **every 3 hours** during the lights-on period.

Example timer set-up 4 cycles during 8am-8pm:



Example 3 cycles:



Clay Coco 60/40

Clay Coco 60/40 drains well and retains moisture.

Small plants may require just **1 flood cycle per day**. Large plants in full flower could benefit from **2-3 flood cycles per day** during the **lights-on period**.

ADJUSTING FLOOD FREQUENCY

As plants grow larger, their water uptake increases, so you may need to increase the number of flood cycles.

Monitor your plants and adjust the cycles based on their needs and how quickly the medium dries out.

In general, faster-draining media like clay pebbles require more frequent flooding, while water-retentive media like soil need fewer cycles.

Here's a summary of the steps for initial setup and transplanting:

Prepare Fabric Pots

Fill each fabric pot to approximately 4 inches from the top of the plastic pot. This will serve as the flood line if the floor is level.

Prepare Water Tank

Fill the water tank and mix in your preferred nutrients and any required additives. After the initial cycle, remember to top up the tank, as some water will stay within the system.



FLOODING THE SYSTEM

Turn on the fill pump by pushing the switch on the timer to the “**on**” position or rotating the dial to a **pushed-out segment**.

Leave the lid off the header pot to monitor the float switch.

Once the fill pump stops, immediately cut the power to the brain by switching the mains socket off. This will allow time to determine the fill level in each pot and adjust the medium height to suit.

Check Medium Firmness

When you press down with an open hand, the medium should feel firm. If your hand sinks into the water, add more medium until the desired firmness is achieved.

Plant Placement

Position the plants about 2 cm below the water line in the pots.

Complete Cycle

Turn the mains switch back on. The system will pause for 10 seconds then complete the cycle and return the nutrient solution to the tank.

FINAL STEP

Fill the pots with growing medium.

Place the AquaGuard protectors on top (replace every cycle).

Position the timer switch to the centre “timed position”.

Fill the tank to the top and set the EC & pH to desired level.

If you need further assistance or more details on any specific part of the process, feel free to ask.

TECH SUPPORT

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- PH NEUTRAL



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USES:

- CLEAN CUTTINGS
- POWDERY MILDEW
- FLUSHING STAGE
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SKIN



FOOD



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