



User Manual

All You Need Hybrid 2.0 Gear Pack™

Contents

1 Hybrid Nest 2.0



Includes 1 test tube, 3 plugs and 3 test tube adapters.

1 Outworld



Includes 2 plugs & 1 large poly tubing.

1 Starter Gear Pack



Introduction

Congratulations on choosing AntsCanada for your ant keeping needs, where professional ant keepers design and use the products. Your new AntsCanada All You Need Hybrid 2.0 Gear Pack™ contains all you will need to house and care for your growing ant colony.

Our Hybrid Nest line of formicariums have been around for several years and have been modified and tuned to be a great environment to raise a colony. We have tested them ourselves and listened to our customer's feedback to make them a solid piece of ant keeping equipment.

Features

The features of the Hybrid Nest, the Outworld and all the individual parts are discussed on our web site at www.AntsCanada.com. Please visit the web site for further reading regarding the features and suggested uses of our products.

Assembly

There is very little assembly required prior to introducing your ant colony into your new Hybrid Nest 2.0. You just need to do a few things outlined below and then decide how you want to connect everything together using the supplied tubing.

1. If you desire to add substrate (sand, soil, wood chip, etc.) inside the Hybrid Nest, remove the glass cover. If it is a tight fit, push a small nail or paper clip up through the bottom holes to help remove the glass. Add substrate. Make sure all substrate particles are off the top surface of the nest and then replace the glass. Optionally glue the glass if desired using Elmer's glue or clear silicone.
2. Optional: With the nest removed from the base, place a hydration medium (cotton or Perlite) into the large basin in the base, and then replace the nest. Cotton or Perlite will absorb water and help retain the water for a longer period of time. Also, if the cotton or Perlite rests up against the micro-holes in the bottom of the Hybrid nest, it facilitates the movement of water into the nesting space for the ants.
3. Add water to the exposed smaller basin until the base section is full of water. This will provide moisture for your ant colony for a week or more.
4. Connect large tubing, small tubing or test tube adapters directly to any of the four provided ports. Use the provided AntsCanada Plugs to seal off all unused ports to prevent your ants from escaping.

Here's a link to an AntsCanada YouTube video showing how a Hybrid Nest 2.0 and Outworld can be setup: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iRV2eXml8wU> (Beginning at the 8:00 minute mark you will find the Hybrid Nest 2.0 and Outworld setup.)

Cleaning the Hybrid Nest™

Like any other pet, ants will create messes. Fortunately, they will usually pile their garbage in the foraging area for you. As the ant keeper, you are responsible to occasionally do a little clean-up work for them.

We also recommend that the entire Hybrid Nest™ be thoroughly cleaned with soap and warm water at least once a year. Of course in order to do this, your ant colony will need to move out into another location. A second Hybrid Nest™ would be ideal for this. Connect a second Hybrid Nest™ and over a period of time, encourage them to move. Here are a few recommendations to help encourage ants to move out of a formicarium into another one:

1. Connect a new, clean formicarium to your ant setup using tubing.
2. Cover the new formicarium with a cloth or something so that it is dark inside.
3. Expose the dirty formicarium to light.
 - a. Use a desk lamp or something similar that can be placed within a foot or so of the formicarium.
4. Expose the dirty formicarium to a small amount of additional heat. This can be done with the light source. Place the light source close enough to the formicarium so that it also provides a small amount of heat for the formicarium.
 - a. NOTE: You must be extremely careful not to heat the formicarium too quickly, as it will cause your colony to burn and die. It is recommended that you start by placing the light source at least 1 foot away. Over a period of a few days, you can slowly move the light closer if the ants do not move out.
5. Wait. This is the hardest part sometimes. It is not uncommon for ants to take a couple of weeks to make the decision to move out, so just be patient.

Once the queen(s), all the brood, and the vast majority of worker ants have moved out, disconnect the old formicarium from your ant setup and quickly plug both ends of the disconnection with cotton. You may still have some stragglers in the old formicarium so as you begin to remove the glass cover, try to gather them and drop them back into the Outworld.



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Use warm soapy water and thoroughly clean the entire Hybrid Nest, including glass, base, lid and nest.

How Do I Get A Queen Ant?

Queen ants are all around you. You just have to know when to look for them and how to identify them. We have created several video tutorials that can be found in our AntsCanada YouTube channel - <https://www.youtube.com/user/AntsCanada>

Another option for getting a queen is to use the Global Ant Nursery (GAN) Project. People who live close to you have already collected newly fertilized queen ants and will sell one to you.

You can read about it here: <https://www.antscanada.com/queen-ants-for-sale/> .