



Bill's Butterfly Nursery™ Instructions



AND

Bill's Butterfly Nursery Re-fill Instructions



Questions? Problems? 508-886-6570



Keep Caterpillars & Chrysalises out of Direct Sun



- ♥ The Amount of Time it will take to grow your butterflies depends entirely on the consistent temperature of the space you keep them in. At 65F it will take 25-30 days to become butterflies. At 75F it will take 18-21 days. At 85F (proper humidity is important at higher temperatures) it will take 10-15 days.
DO NOT USE HEAT LAMPS, they are too drying!
- ♥ **Let the larvae eat and grow bigger in the container they came in.** Keep the larvae in the shipping container and **DO NOT** transfer them into the Nursery until they are approximately 5/8" long. [-----]. **The larvae DO NOT need "air holes".**
- ♥ Add the entire amount of food to the empty Nursery Dish (smear the food and press lightly on to the side of the dish). Carefully transfer the larvae to the dish. Twist dish into Bill's Butterfly Nursery base. *Be sure that the dish is securely twisted into the Nursery base. **You will not open the Nursery until 3 days after ALL the Larvae have formed their chrysalises.**
- ♥ The caterpillar frass (droppings) will fall to the side and the bottom of the dish. There is no need to remove the droppings in the Nursery. Place Nursery in a spot where it will not be disturbed. Avoid really drafty locations **Jostling the nursery may result in the larvae bruising and becoming injured.**
- ♥ **The Larvae DO NOT need "air holes".** They have all the air they will need in the closed Nursery. The larvae will create their own environment in the Nursery. Larvae will grow bigger and form chrysalises (cocoons) on the sides of the nursery and on the Net-Cap. **You will not open the Nursery until 3 days after ALL the Larvae have formed their chrysalises.**
- ♥ **If you own Bill's Butterfly Net Castle:** Follow Bill's Butterfly Net Castle Instructions. **You will not need to use the Lace Strip Dish for emerging butterflies.** Remove food dish after all larvae have formed a chrysalis, then clean and store for use again when raising butterflies.

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- ♥ After chrysalises have been formed for 3 days, carefully remove top rubber band and remove Net-Cap from the top of the Nursery. Gently lay the netting and Chrysalises down on the bottom of the Lace Strip dish. Note: If any chrysalises become detached from the side or if any form in the food dish, simply remove any silk webbing on them and place on the lace strip on the bottom of the nursery.
- ♥ Carefully open the Nursery and remove any silk webbing from on or around the chrysalises that have formed on the side of the nursery. There is no need to keep nursery closed at this point.
- ♥ Press the lace strip dish (with any chrysalises in the bottom) into the base of one of the Nursery halves. Drape the top of the lace strip over the top of the Nursery. Close the Nursery with the other half, if desired. It is not necessary to close in tight, just enough to prevent emerged butterflies from escaping before a wish is made. Chrysalises may “wiggle” around. will appear darker and shriveled when the butterfly is getting ready to emerge. Stop Misting.
- ♥ **Mist chrysalises with water several times a day (especially if it is a dry environment).** You can mist the chrysalises right through the Net Castle netting. DO NOT leave the chrysalises laying in a pool of water. ***It is very important that the chrysalises do not dry out.** Most deformities in adult butterfly wings are a result of the chrysalises drying out. Chrysalises will appear darker and shriveled when the butterfly is getting ready to emerge. **Stop Misting.**
- ♥ Butterflies emerge! **The red liquid is merconium. It is excess fluid that was not used during wing formation which they expel during the 2-3 days following emergence.** DO NOT mist butterflies that have just emerged. Allow them to hang and dry their wings for 2-3 hours before misting the butterflies. The butterflies will not be very active and will not be hungry for the first 1-2 days. They will uncurl their proboscis and drink the water collected on the netting of the Net Castle when they are ready.



Emerged Butterflies
Drying Their Wings

Bill's Butterfly Net Castle™



Butterfly Net Castle with Feeding Dish
Included in Nursery & Net Castle Kit ONLY

Available Separately Too!

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