

Using your MASON JAR / KRATKY DECKS:

These adapters allow you to grow plants using the **Kratky method**, a simple form of hydroponics where plants grow in a container of nutrient solution without pumps or moving water. The adapter holds your **Gardyn or AeroGarden basket** securely over a standard mason jar so plant roots can grow down into the nutrient solution.

Your adapter features a **split design**, allowing it to be installed around established plants without needing to force roots through a small opening.

Installing Your Adapter

1. Fill your mason jar with water or nutrient solution.
2. Wrap each side of your basket with one side of the adapter.
3. Gently lower the adapter (and basket) down onto the mouth of your Mason Jar.
4. Use the Mason Jar ring to hold the adapter in place

The plant roots should extend down into the water inside the jar.

How the Kratky Method Works

As the plant grows, it will absorb water from the jar while the water level slowly drops. This creates a small **air gap between the water and the basket**, which allows the roots to receive oxygen while still accessing moisture. This balance of **water and air** allows the Kratky method to work without pumps or circulating water.

Plants That Work Well in Mason Jar Systems

Smaller plants and herbs tend to perform best in mason jar Kratky setups, such as: Lettuce, Basil, Mint, Parsley, Cilantro, Other small leafy greens

Larger plants can sometimes outgrow the jar quickly and may require a larger container as they mature.

Important Growing Tips

- Always **fully soak your growing medium before planting**.
- Make sure the **roots reach the water or nutrient solution** in the jar.
- Check the **water level periodically** as the plant grows.

Light Blocking Tip

Light reaching the water can encourage algae growth.

For best results, consider **blocking light from the sides of the mason jar**. Many growers wrap their jars with materials such as:

- Paper or cardboard
- Foil
- Cloth or tape

This helps keep the water darker and reduces algae growth.

Cleaning & Reuse

All Freshly Printed Greens products are designed to be **reused many times**.

To clean between plants:

- Remove any remaining roots or growing medium
- Wash with **warm, soapy water** and rinse thoroughly
- Allow to **air dry between uses**

If algae appears, soak the item in a **citric acid solution for up to 2 hours**, then wash and rinse again.

What is PLA?

These were made with PLA which is a great material for indoor use only. PLA stands for Polylactic Acid, a biodegradable plastic made from renewable sources like corn starch or sugarcane, making it a more environmentally friendly option compared to traditional plastics.

Benefits of PLA:

- Low Melting Point: Requires lower print temperatures compared to other filaments, which means less energy required to print with.
- Biodegradable: Can decompose under specific composting conditions, although this depends on the disposal environment. Check your local options for recycling things made with PLA.
- Food-Safe (with caution): Generally considered food-safe.

Important Considerations:

- Heat Resistance: PLA has a low heat resistance, making it unsuitable for high-temperature applications. Do not expose your item to temperatures above 140 degrees Fahrenheit
- UV Degradation: May degrade when exposed to prolonged sunlight. Keep out of direct sunlight.
- Brittleness: Can be brittle depending on the print settings so try to avoid dropping or adding excessive weight to the product.

Product Use & Responsibility

Freshly Printed Greens accessories are designed to support hydroponic gardening systems such as Gardyn, AeroGarden, and similar setups. Because every garden environment and growing condition is different, proper plant care—including monitoring water levels, nutrients, lighting, and system operation—remains the responsibility of the user. Always check your plants and garden system regularly to ensure healthy growing conditions. Freshly Printed Greens is not responsible for plant loss or system issues resulting from use of garden accessories, garden conditions, maintenance, or system operation.

About Freshly Printed Greens

Freshly Printed Greens is a small, independent shop dedicated to making helpful tools for indoor hydroponic gardeners (including myself). Every design is created, tested, and 3D printed in-house with a focus on practical solutions for real gardens.

Gardening is always a learning process, and I enjoy learning from and helping fellow growers troubleshoot, experiment, and improve their setups. If you ever have questions about your garden, feel free to reach out—I'm always happy to help. Maybe together we can become better gardeners :D.

Even if you don't have questions and just want to show off your setup. I LOVE seeing your gardens and gain so much from seeing how other people do things.