**AEROFLO® 30 PARTS:**

1. **Snap Stand Support Structure**
2. **6’ Growing Chambers**
3. **Laser Sprayline (inside)**
4. **Drain/Overflow Tube**
5. **Expandable Manifold**
6. **Pumpline**
7. **Cap Plugs (2” & 6”)**
8. **Reservoir (20 gal)**
9. **MAG 7 Pump (inside)**

**General Hydroponics™ FloraKit Nutrients**

Also Included:
- Hydroton™
- Grow Cups with CocoTek™ Liner
- Drain Tube lubricant
- Drain Valve

**Unpacking**
See the diagram above and familiarize yourself with the parts.

**Set Up**
Plants can be grown almost anywhere using an AeroFlo® System. Greenhouses, patios, and even indoors under lights, make great locations. An AeroFlo® can be installed where there is warmth, light and fresh air. It is advised to choose a clean and level place to set up your system.

**Draining THE SYSTEM**

Turn pump off, unscrew swivel fitting which attaches to pumpline. Connect a garden hose to swivel fitting and start pump. As the reservoir is draining, remove the Drain/Overflow Tubes from growing chambers sequentially while the reservoir level drops. Don’t pull the tubes too fast or your reservoir may overflow. Once water level has dropped to level of pump, shut pump off, and continue to drain by opening drain valve. Never run the pump dry.

**CLEANING THE FILTER**

Unplug pump and remove filter. Clean by placing filter under warm water and removing all organic debris.

**HIGH LEVEL, LOW LEVEL**

The growing chambers can be operated with a high nutrient level which submerges the bottom of the growing cups to moisten the Hydroton for new transplants and plants with under-developed root systems. As the plants grow and develop strong roots, press the Drain/Overflow Tubes to the bottom position in the Growing Chambers to lower the nutrient level. This will create an “air gap” below the bottom of the growing cups. This process will increase the total amount of oxygen in the rooting zone and reduce the moisture in the Hydroton. Keep the reduced water capacity in mind when you mix nutrient.

**CLEANING BETWEEN CROPS**

Drain the whole system, brush out the growing chambers and, if necessary, unplug the spray holes in the beige Spray Lines mounted inside the growing chambers. Sponge off all parts to disinfect. You can use General Hydroponic’s Flora Shield™ or another disinfectant. Rinse everything thoroughly. Refill it with water and run it for a few hours, then, drain again before introducing a new crop. Clean filters frequently. Simply unplug pump and remove reusable filter. Rinse filter under hot water to clean.

**Notes**

Nutrient mixes can be adjusted in both strength (conductivity) and “flavor” (ie the ratios of Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium, Calcium, Magnesium, Sulfur & Microelements). To adjust these factors mix different combinations of FloraGro, FloraBloom and FloraMicro with water.

- To enhance vegetative growth, use more FloraGro and less FloraBloom.
- To enhance fruit production, use equal amounts of FloraGro, FloraBloom and FloraMicro.
- To provide more Calcium or Iron (for green, leafy vegetables), use slightly more FloraMicro.
- Many growers follow the 3-2-1 max. For vegetative growth: 3 parts FloraGro (ie. teaspoons per gallon), 2 parts FloraMicro plus 1 part FloraBloom. For flowering: 1 part FloraGro plus 2 parts FloraMicro plus 3 parts FloraBloom.

**Nutrients**

Nutrients are the life line to your plants. Since you are providing the plants with all their nutritional needs, we recommend you feed them the best. General Hydroponics™ offers a wide variety of plant foods. We have had great success using our Flora Series 3 part system (FloraGro™, FloraBloom™ and FloraMicro™).

1. Fill the reservoir with fresh water. If you are in an area with poor-quality water (over 200 ppm Total Dissolved Solids), we recommend that you use purified water (Reverse Osmosis and/or rain water). General Hydroponics has a new Hardwater FloraMicro™ nutrient formula available.
2. Add nutrients as per instructions on label. Stir in FloraMicro first, then add FloraBloom, and FloraGro. Never pre-mix nutrient concentrates. This may cause nutrient “lock-out”.
3. Adjust the nutrient solution pH to between 5.0 and 7.0 (see instructions with the General Hydroponics pH Control Kit).

**AeroFlo® 30” System**

Thank you for purchasing a General Hydroponics AeroFlo™ System. AeroFlo™ Systems represent the state of the art in hydroponics today. Plants grow superbly in our smallest hobby systems as well as our largest commercial version.

The AF30 is a great mid-sized system, which offers you the option of expanding your system by adding two more chambers to the un-used side of the manifold.

You will soon find that setting up and operating an AeroFlo® System is easy and fun. We look forward to your growing success and we welcome the opportunity to serve you during the coming years.

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Frequently Asked Questions:

1. How often do I add nutrient? What is "topping-off"?
Add nutrient every time you drain your system. "Topping-off" is a term that describes adding water to the system. Remember, during hot spells plants transpire excessive amounts of water leaving behind nutrient salts. These salts can cause ppm levels to skyrocket creating a toxic environment for your plants. Keep your ppm at a lower level during these times of extreme transpiration.

2. How often should the water be changed?
That depends upon the growth (stage and rate) of your plants. When plants are seedlings every three weeks should suffice. Once the plants start to approach maturity it is best to change the nutrient mixture completely every two weeks, or even more often for better results. Between nutrient changes it is important to "Topping-Off" the reservoir with fresh water. Add more nutrient only if the conductivity or ppm drops.

3. Should I invest in a ppm or conductivity meter?
Yes, a conductivity meter is an essential tool for measuring nutrient strength. By knowing the conductivity level for a specific variety of plant, the grower can adjust nutrient strength to meet specific crop needs.

4. When should I adjust the Drain/Overflow Tubes up or down?
When plants are small and their roots are not well developed, the Drain/Overflow Tubes should be at the maximum height to allow nutrient rich water to reach the bottoms of the net cups. Once the roots have grown in length and are immersed within the flowing stream of nutrient, the Drain/Overflow Tubes can be pushed down to increase oxygen within the nutrient and growing chamber.

5. What is the optimal temperature range for the nutrient solution?
Optimal temperature is generally between 65° and 75°F.

6. Can I turn off my system for any length of time?
Generally it's best for the system to run 24 hours per day – always on. However, many people do put their AeroFlo® systems on a timer to save electricity. The AeroFlo stays on during the light cycle and turns off for the night cycle, except for an hour of spray in the middle of the night cycle.

7. At what pH level should my system be maintained and why?
Ph levels should be between 5.5 and 6.5 because at this pH level, nutrients are more readily available for the plant.

Ordering parts and supplies
See your General Hydroponics retailer to order Grow Cups, nutrients, Hydroton, or parts for your AeroFlo® system or call General Hydroponics, Inc. (707) 824-9376 Mon-Fri, 9 am to 4:30 pm, PST.