

Read Me First!



It's Time To Grow Butterflies!



WARNING:
CHOKING HAZARD—Small parts.
Not for Children under 3 years.

Quick Guide

InsectLore.com

1. Grow your caterpillars

Your caterpillars arrive with all the nutritious food they need to grow into healthy Painted Lady butterflies. They may seem tiny and inactive at first, **BUT PLEASE GIVE THEM 48 HOURS TO ACCLIMATE TO THEIR NEW SURROUNDINGS.** Soon your caterpillars will be eating and growing before your very eyes!

Here's what to do:

- Handle the Cup of Caterpillars™ gently.
- Place the cup upright, indoors, and away from sunlight or drafts.
- Keep the lid on the cup at all times.
- Do not touch your caterpillars.
- Keep your caterpillars indoors at room temperature.
- Watch carefully! Your caterpillars will shed their exoskeletons several times as they grow!



2.

See them become chrysalides

After 7 to 10 days, your caterpillars will climb to the top of the cup and attach themselves to the underside of the lid. There they will hang in a “J” shape, shed their exoskeletons one last time, and harden into chrysalides.



Here's what to do:

- Wait 3 days for your caterpillars to fully harden into chrysalides.
- Do not handle the cup during this important time.
- Remember, an amazing transformation is taking place inside!

3.

Move your chrysalides to the butterfly habitat

Here's what to do:

Step 1. Gently remove the lid with the hanging chrysalides from the Cup of Caterpillars™.

Step 2. Gently remove ALL webbing surrounding the chrysalides with a cotton swab.

Step 3. Carefully insert the lid sideways into the slot in the Chrysalis Holding Log. Then, place the Chrysalis Holding Log in the butterfly habitat.



4.

Watch the birth of your butterflies!

After 7-10 days, your painted lady butterflies will emerge from the chrysalides. At first the butterflies' wings will be soft and crumpled. The butterflies will slowly stretch and strengthen their wings. They may also exude a few small red drops of meconium after they emerge. This is normal - meconium is the leftover material the butterfly does not need to complete metamorphosis.



Here's what to do:

- Do not disturb the habitat while your butterflies are emerging.
- Do not touch the newly emerged butterflies.
- Wait 2 or 3 hours (to allow your butterflies' wings to dry and harden) before feeding.

5.

Feed your butterflies with nectar or fruit - then set them free!

Here's what to do:

- Thoroughly mix 2 teaspoons of sugar with 1/4 cup of water. Drip a few drops of nectar on your butterfly feeder (or on a cotton ball), and place in the habitat. (If you are dripping nectar on a cotton ball, place it on a small paper plate and then place the plate in the habitat).
- Or, provide your butterflies with small slices of fresh fruit like watermelon or oranges.
- Give your butterflies fresh nectar or fruit every day.

Do not leave containers of water or nectar in the habitat; your butterflies may fall in and drown.

- Feed, observe, and enjoy your butterflies for a few days - then release them into nature!

The feeder is not included in all kits



Colors may vary

Why is there webbing in my cup?

It is a good sign if you see webbing in your Cup of Caterpillars. In nature, the webbing protects the caterpillars from danger.

Caterpillars use the webbing to stick to their host plants, as the wind can easily blow them off the leaves.



Why are my chrysalides wiggling?

Sometimes you will see your chrysalides wiggle and shake, especially if you disturb them. This is a very natural reaction to ward off predators. If a chrysalis feels threatened, it will shake to scare the predator away.

Why should I remove the webbing from my chrysalides?

When you transfer your chrysalides to the habitat, remove all webbing surrounding the chrysalides with a cotton swab before moving them to the Chrysalis Holding Log and then to the habitat.

If this step is ignored, the butterfly may become entangled in the webbing upon emergence, resulting in poorly formed wings.



What if a chrysalis falls?

If a chrysalis falls, it's ok! This happens in nature. Here's what to do:

- Gently scoop your chrysalis out of the cup with a plastic spoon.
- Be sure to remove all of the webbing surrounding the chrysalis with a cotton swab.
- Lay the chrysalis on a small piece of paper towel on the floor of your Butterfly Garden Habitat.
- Try to position the chrysalis near the inside mesh wall of the habitat. The butterfly will emerge there safely and then will climb up the wall of the habitat to hang, stretch, and dry its wings.



What are those red droplets I see in my habitat?



When your butterflies emerge from the chrysalides, they may expel a red liquid called meconium. This is completely natural. Meconium is the leftover parts of the caterpillar that were not needed to make the butterfly. Place a paper towel under the habitat to protect your furniture.

Live products are non-returnable. If you feel there is a problem with your shipment, **DO NOT THROW YOUR INSECTS AWAY.** They are likely just fine.

Questions?

Contact us at customerservice@insectlore.com or call us at 1-800-548-3284

We guarantee that 3 out of 5 caterpillars will become butterflies.