

Spiritworks Granular Carbon Filter

Contents

- 1 x Aluminium tube with 2 end caps with washers
- 2 x Rubber washers
- 2 x Anodised aluminium mesh filter support
- 2 x 10 litre buckets with lids and a tap.
- 1 x Length of siphon tube.
- 1 x Funnel.
- 1 x 1kg of granular carbon.

Instructions for use

The Filter tube is already set up as it should be so simply remove the top nut and nipple (it says top on the tube). Just so you have it make sure the bottom has the nut (complete with nipple end in place) fitted with the rubber washer and the stainless mesh. The rubber washer must always be in contact with the long aluminium tube. For the top the circular metal washer with small holes in the middle should fit nicely into the recess of the nipple. The washer should then be added and this needs to be screwed into place. Make sure the bottom is also secured with washer, mesh filter and nipple.

To fill the tube with carbon remove the top section. Place the funnel in the top of the aluminium tube. Cut the bag of carbon in the corner and start to pour the carbon into the funnel until the tube is full. Lightly tap the tube, we don't want to compress the carbon too much, carefully lifting out the funnel. Secure with the washer circular metal washer and the nut in that order. Now we need to activate the carbon and remove the dust by running water through it. The nipple on the nut will fit nicely onto a hose pipe so try this. You can then run water through it for about 2 minutes. The water will be black to start with and will then start to run clear. The carbon will make a slight bubbling noise as its activated. If you can use hot water but if not cold will do. There needs to be a good amount of pressure to get the water going through. You are now good to go.

Now our tube is ready we can set up our buckets. The top bucket (with the solid lid) will have the tap fitted to it. The washer should always be on the outside. The tap will also rotate so once tight it's easy to position it. Just hold the main body with one hand and rotate the end of the tap with the other hand until its pointing down.

You need to be looking at least a 650mm fall from the bottom of the tap to the top of the other bucket (with the lid with the hole in) which should be placed on the floor.

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The small length of tubing can then be fitted to the nipple at the top of our tube and the bottom of the tap. If this is a tight fit, then just hold the tube in some boiling water for a few seconds to loosen it and make it easier to fit. Push the bottom nipple (the end with the stainless mesh filter in place) into the hole in the lid on the bucket on the floor.

Now make sure the tube is straight and at 90 degrees to the floor. You might need to cut the siphon tube which is connected to the bucket tap to make sure this happens. Or you maybe want to raise the top bucket.

Finally, turn the tap on and let the alcohol start to run through the carbon. We recommend you place something heavy on the lid of the top bucket, so it doesn't topple over as it empties. However, please don't snap the lid securely to the bucket as this will create a vacuum and stop the flow.

This will normally take 4 to 6 hours and the liquid should be lovely and clear. We suggest you repeat this process through the same carbon as soon as this has all come through. It will improve the alcohol quality considerably. If there is still a taste you want remove, then empty the carbon out and repeat the whole process. Every time you do it the quality and taste will improve. This is so important for your distilled alcohol quality.

We find this is much better than thoughts of double distillation. It's possible to run approx. 10 to 15 litres of alcohol through one tube of carbon but this must be done in one go. Once the carbon dries out or is left then it's not suitable for reuse.

Filter paper (which you may purchase separately) needs to be cut to size. We suggest using the washer and marking round this. Then cutting with in. Some people like the idea of a final polish. This will however slow down the whole process and can take up to 24 hours. This is an optional step.

The time taken "cleaning" the alcohol will increase if using the filter paper. Some say it takes up to 12 – 16 hours. If you find this a pain, leave the white filter paper out. It is not necessary (but does give that final polish) however the choice is yours.

Depending on the height you have available and the level of professionalism you wish to achieve it is possible to buy extra tubes which can then be joined in line. This will obviously improve the quality of the alcohol and speed which you can run at. Check your height before you do this. Each extra tube will add approx. 650mm of height.

Cleaning the tube can be quite tricky especially as the carbon inside can harden. Put a thick cloth folder several times on the side of our sink and tap the tube on it. Carbon will fall out and then turn the tube the other way and repeat. A long metal or hard plastic stick is also a good idea. Some people say the carbon can be recycled but this may not be a good idea and the cost (£1.00 per fill) may not justify it.

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