



Installing Bee Packages

- For each package, set up hive box with 9 frames (or 7 if you use an 8 frame box), so there is extra space for the queen cage, on top of bottom board in the place where you want to have your bees (if available, use frames with drawn comb)
- Have inner cover and outer cover ready nearby, along with bricks for the top
- Consider having an empty hive box to use on top if using passive release
- Have feeder ready with jar, top and the sugar syrup/bee tea and have entrance reducer in place, if desired
- Have your hive tool ready
- If there's a wooden cage, have a tool available to remove the cork (like an awl, a spiky tool from a pocket knife or small screw driver)
- If there's a plastic queen cage, be sure to have a toothpick available
- When you're ready to begin, feed the bees by spraying the outside of the honeybee package with sugar syrup on both sides of the box
- Know whether or not there is a syrup can in the box
- If there is a syrup can:
 - * With your hive tool (and while holding the tab of the queen cage), pry open the four staples that hold the wooden cover in place
 - * Remove the wooden cover and set it aside but keep it nearby
 - * If there is a plastic queen cage, don't let go!
 - * If there is a wooden cage with a white strip holding it in place, pry off the staple holding it while holding onto the strip
 - * While holding onto the queen cage, pry out the syrup can, pull out the queen cage and then set the wooden cover upside down over the open hole, so the fewest bees fly out
- If there ISN'T a syrup can, hold the lid down while prying off the wooden cover and don't let go of the queen cage
 - * Carefully pull out the queen cage and set the wooden cover upside down over the open hole
- If the cage is plastic, remove the plastic cover to reveal the candy plug, and place a toothpick through the cage without hurting the bees inside
 - * Insert the toothpick into the center top of each of the 4th and 5th frames, just below the wooden top
- If the cage is wood, pull off the tab and then use your awl or skinny screw driver to remove the cork plug on the CANDY end of the cage
 - * Embed the cage firmly in the wax at the top of the space between the 4th and 5th frames with the candy end facing UP (so that any bee that might die will not block the exit for the queen)
- If a passive release, place an empty box on top of the bottom box with the frames and the queen
 - * Carefully place the covered package box inside the empty top box
 - * Remove the wooden cover
 - * Place the inner and out cover on the hive and then place the bricks on top
- If shaking the bees, then remove the wooden cover of the package, turn the box upside down and shake the bees onto the hive box
 - * Wait until bees have worked their way down into the box
 - * Put the inner and outer covers onto the hive box and place bricks on top
- In three days, smoke the hive, remove and check queen cage to ensure she's been released, add 10th frame (or 8th frame); cover the hive and smile!