

# Painted Lady Butterfly Raising Kit Instructions



**Congratulations!** On your purchase of our painted lady butterfly raising kit. Please follow these instructions below and if you have any questions visit our FAQ page on our site or contact us to have all your questions answered.

Inspect your package and make sure that it is not damaged in any way. Please keep the paper lining on the lid as the caterpillars will form their chrysalis on it. Replace it with a fresh one if needed.

Make sure that the plastic lid is on the container and after 7 days open the containers and remove any frass the caterpillars produce. You may also remove any webbing that is visible in the small plastic container.

If you lose more than 30% of your caterpillars contact us immediately. Please take notes on your raising experience and offer us with your feedback. Leave us any suggestions or comments by contacting us.

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## **Caution: Do not place caterpillars into direct sunlight!**

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**W**hen the caterpillars have developed to the chrysalis stage, they will attach themselves to the paper liner. Please allow at least 1 day for the chrysalis to harden before transferring them to the butterfly habitat. You can wait until all the caterpillars have reached chrysalis stage before transfer to the butterfly habitat.

Once you're ready to suspend the chrysalis, clear a work area and lay the opened butterfly house horizontally on a table with the plastic side face down.

OR, if you're working with an enclosure that doesn't have a plastic side, you can pin a piece of paper (or several, if necessary) to cover the ceiling. Use as many pins as you feel necessary to secure your chrysalis.

To suspend the chrysalis, gently remove the lids of your caterpillar containers and scotch tape the paper liners (with attached chrysalis) to the plastic (or paper) surface of your butterfly house. Space each chrysalis approximately 2 inches apart and away from the sides. Once all are positioned, do up the zipper and gently turn over the butterfly house. Your chrysalis will now be hanging. We also recommend that you place a piece of paper under the house to catch any drops that will fall when the butterflies are emerging. The adult butterflies will emerge within 12 days, depending on temperature. When the butterfly emerges, it will hang for several hours to dry its wings. Do not disturb them at this time. If you are feeding the butterflies with flowers, be sure to wash the flowers to remove pesticides. Alternatively, you can feed them with Gatorade (Orange) which has a composition similar to nectar. Pour 'nectar' into shallow containers and cover with netting to prevent them from falling in. If using a mesh butterfly house, you can also brush the sides of the house (mesh) with Gatorade.

**Release butterflies on a warm day – 65 degrees Fahrenheit, or warmer.**

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact us

Website: [www.monarchbutterflies.ca](http://www.monarchbutterflies.ca)

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