



Master Beekeeping Program
 Lesson 2-Equipment
 Lesson 3- Making a start in Beekeeping



Lesson 2 Equipment:

| Hive starter Kit (Langstroth 8 frame or 10 frame): | Recommended additions |
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| Bottom board w/entrance reducer 2 deep hive bodies 2 honey supers 20 deep frames (16 if 8 frame) 20 honey frames (16 if 8 frame) Inner cover Telescoping cover Estimated cost: \$200.00 - \$300.00 | Extra bottom board with entrance reducer Extra deep hive body Extra honey super 10 additional deep frames 10 additional honey frames Migratory cover Nuc Box (complete) Estimated cost: \$100 |
| Tools/protective gear: | 8 frame VS 10 frame Hive weight |
| Feeder Bee veil/bee suit Gloves Boots Smoker Hive tool (s) Bee Brush | 10 Frame boxes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deep box, 9 5/8" 80 - 90 pounds • Honey Super 7 5/8" 70 - 80 pounds 8 frame boxes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deep 9 5/8" 64-72 pounds • Honey Super 7 5/8" 56-64 pounds http://www.bushfarms.com/beeslazy.htm#lighterboxes |
| Equipment Suppliers: | http://www.pugetsoundbees.org/beekeeping-supplies/ |
| Bees: | PSBA http://www.pugetsoundbees.org/queen-bees-and-nucs/ |

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| Notes: |
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Lesson 3 – Making a start in Beekeeping

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| Hive Location: | Easily accessible Protection from wind and damp moist air Face hives south or east to get sun exposure Know regulations in your community regarding beekeeping, allowable number of hives, hive placement restrictions or requirements |
| Hives: | Choose type of hive (Langstroth/Top bar) Removable frames to facilitate inspection, relocating frames within hives |
| Frames: | Frame type (Wood or Plastic) Foundation or foundationless Wax foundation or plasticell |
| Working the bees: | Temperature 55 or above for full inspections Light colored clothing Be gentle/quiet Time inspections for sunny afternoons when most foragers are out of hive Have a plan before you open the hive. Know what you need to accomplish. |
| Using the smoker: | Fuels should be clean and free of contaminates. Ok to use, burlap, cardboard, wood chips pellets, leaves to generate smoke Never over smoke the bees You want cool smoke, no sparks or flames Light smoker early and let burn for flames to die out and get cool smoke |
| Getting stung: | You will get stung Be prepared if you have never been stung. Be prepared with antihistamine and have someone nearby to help if needed You will learn to work the bees to minimize stings If you swell badly you can use antihistamine. Some people have a severe reaction and should seek medical assistance. To remove a stinger, scrape the stinger out. Do not use tweezers as this could force more venom into wound. |
| Acquiring bees: | Packages available in 3-5 lbs. packages and should have mated queen in package. Nucs will have 4-5 frames of bees on drawn comb with an active laying queen with eggs and or brood. (Limited availability) |
| Installing a package | Remove 3 or 4 frames from the center of a deep box Shake bees to bottom of package Remove can of food and look for queen in queen cage Put queen in safe place Shake bees into hive box Remove cork for queen cage, install marshmallow into hole if no sugar plug. Do not direct release the queen accidentally. Place queen in-between 2 frames insuring the screen faces the bees on the frames. Secure queen cage to top of frame Replace the remaining frames gently, the bees will move if you do this slowly. Replace the inner cover. Feed the bees with your feeder of choice 1:1 sugar to water if can in package is empty. Do not disturb to 72 hours and continue to feed After 72 hours check bees and queen cage to verify the queen has been released. Once queen is released remove queen cage and close up hive. |