

Wicking Strip Placement

Your wicking strip is the mechanism that diverts water only to the roots of the plant. As water drips down the tower, it saturates the wicking strip, saturating only the plug containing the roots. The goal is for water to only drip down the back of the tower to saturate the roots and not the front of the tower.

If the wicking strip is placed too close to the front edge of the tower, then water can drip forward and onto the front of the tower and onto the plant.

If the wicking strip is set too far back, then roots may not have contact with the strip and will not get access to water.

Each tower has a total of two wicking strips, one for each fold.

Plant Placement

- Seedlings should be placed in the tower so that the roots and tip of the plug are in contact with the plug. Only the bottom third of the plug needs to be in contact with the wicking strip.
- For seedlings where leaf formation occurs at the surface of the plug (as with most lettuce seedlings), plant the seedling with the plug flush against the front edge of the tower.



- Seedling plugs should NEVER be sticking out of the front edge of the tower. If this were to happen, then the saturated plug can drip down on the the plants below it.

- For plants with longer stems, where the leaves form farther away from the base of the plug (kale or swiss chard, for example), the plug can be placed farther into the tower to support the stem. This may mean that you set the wicking strip back even further to accommodate for this time of planting.



- The stem of the seedling should never be in contact with the wicking strip.
- The leaves of the seedling should never be restricted by the grow medium.