

Mushroom Steamer FAQs

1. Are there any special electrical and water requirements I need to use a Mushroom Substrate Steamer?

Water: A continual supply of water is required for the duration of the run.

Electricity: The units can be wired to 120 or 240 volts. At 120v, the heater produces 1,500 watts and draws 13 amps. At 240v, it produces 6,000 watts and draws 25 amps. We strongly recommend 240v. At 120v, the steamer will be very slow and may not reach temperature on the larger sizes. Unfortunately, we are not qualified to tell you how to wire your house. If you are uncertain, please consult a local expert.

2. How much work is required to put my steamer together on arrival? Can you ship it to me complete with all the pieces attached?

We cannot ship the steamers assembled. A reasonably handy person can assemble the steamers in 30 minutes to an hour following these instructions: <http://www.bubbasbarrels.com/substrate-steamer-assembly> .

3. What other items do I need to purchase to use my mushroom steamer?

For the 240v controller, at a minimum, you will need a power cord to connect the steamer to your electrical mains. The control box has an L14 twist connection. It is available at most hardware / home improvement stores.

4. How difficult is it to build my own steamer?

Everything is easy if you know how to do it. All kidding aside, it's not a task to take lightly. Eric Myers has some great how-to [videos](#). While we're happy to sell you a drum, we cannot provide how-to or tech support for DIY builds.

5. Does "In Stock" mean my steamer will be available for immediate shipping?

All Steamers are built to order. Lead times change depending on demand, and the lead times listed at the top of the product pages are updated regularly. The term "in stock" is a limitation of our shopping cart. If it's not listed as "in stock," we can't take an order for it.

6. Is the cost of shipping included in the cost of my mushroom steamer?

Due to large variations in shipping costs, we do not offer “free” shipping. Steamers are shipped on a pallet by truck. Residential freight charges generally run between \$225 and \$400, depending on how far you are from Knoxville and the remoteness of your location. Terminal pickup and or commercial delivery is a little less expensive. When your steamer has been shipped, you will receive an email notification with a PRO Number that you can use to track your shipment.

Residential deliveries include liftgate service; they also require the trucking company to make an appointment with you for delivery. The driver’s responsibility is merely to set your steamer on the ground, not to carry it to your door.

Your steamer will arrive stretch-wrapped to a pallet. It is easy enough to cut the wrap and remove the steamer from the pallet so that you can transport it in pieces.

For more information, check out the Motor Freight section of our [shipping](#) page.

7. What is the difference between the controller that operates at 240v and the dual voltage model?

The dual voltage model includes a crossover cable that allows the electronics to work on 120 volts. The controllers themselves are identical, as are the heater elements. The crossover cable should only be used when operating the unit on 120v. Modifying the cable in any way will cause an unsafe condition and may destroy the controller. **Do not cut the 120v plug off and hook it up to 240v.**

8. Do I have to have a controller to operate my steamer?

It’s not a requirement, but you will be much happier if you do. Without a controller, the steamer will run wide open all the time, venting more steam into the room and using a lot more water and electricity.

9. Do you sell drum dollies for moving my steamer around?

We have great dollies, which can be found on the [Stands](#) page of our website.

10. Are the mushroom substrate steamers safe to use indoors? How much steam does it vent?

Generally speaking, yes. If you are using your substrate steamer with a controller, it will emit minimal steam through the vent holes in the lid.

11. Can I use the Dual Element Temperature Controller with a Mushroom Substrate Steamer?

No. The dual element temperature controller is designed for use with the [30 Gallon Steam Generator](#), not with the Mushroom Substrate Steamer which is set up for a single heater element.

12. I need to have my steamer shipped to my residence. Can that be done?

Sure, we ship to residential addresses every day. See question 7 for more details.

13. Can you ship a mushroom steamer to Canada?

You bet, check out our [Canada](#) shipping page for more details.

14. Is there an instruction manual for the Temperature Controller?

Yes. You can find it here: <http://www.bubbasbarrels.com/mushroom-controller>