

HMD01 - Humidor Preparation and Care Instructions

Ideal Humidor Conditions:

- Cigars should be kept below 73 degrees Fahrenheit or 23 degrees Centigrade. Ideal temperature is 70 degrees Fahrenheit or 21 degrees Centigrade.
- Cigars should be kept between 66% & 73% humidity. Ideal humidity is 70%.
- Store the humidor in a cool, dry place.
- Avoid placing cigars in direct sunlight.
- When storing cigars, be sure that they do not come in direct contact with the humidifier or hygrometer in the humidor.

Humidor Preparation (seasoning):

1. Remove the humidifier and hygrometer from the humidor.
2. Wet a new, clean sponge that is unscented and free of soap with distilled water. Do not use tap water, because it contains minerals and chlorine that will damage the wood surface and the humidifier. Do not use a paper towel or cloth, because these will leave a residue on the wood.
3. Wipe down all the exposed interior wood. Do not wet down the exterior finished surfaces.
4. After you have wiped down the wood, re-wet the sponge.
5. Place the moist sponge on a plastic bag inside the humidor, and close the lid. Be sure that the sponge does not directly contact the wood when the lid is closed.
6. Leave the sponge in the closed humidor overnight (approximately 12 hours.)
7. Check the sponge. If it is dry, add more distilled water. If it is still damp, leave it as it is. Close the lid, and let the humidor sit over night or another 12 hours.

Hygrometer Calibration:

1. Remove the hygrometer from the humidor.
2. Place the hygrometer inside a wet cloth for half an hour.

The hygrometer should show a reading somewhere between 95% - 100% humidity. If this is the case, the hygrometer is calibrated and can be returned to the humidor. If this is not the case you will need to perform a salt test. See the instructions on this sheet for how to complete a salt test.

Salt Test:

You only need to complete these steps if your hygrometer failed to calibrate when following the Hygrometer Calibration steps listed above.

1. Place some regular table salt in a bottle cap or other very small container.
2. Dampen the salt with the tap water. Do not add enough water to make the salt "soupy". The pile of salt should be just damp.
3. Place both the hygrometer and the cap of damp salt in a sealed Ziploc bag so that no air can get in or out. Leave the bag for 8 hours.
4. After 8 hours, the actual humidity of the air in the bag will be 75%. Your hygrometer will probably not read 75%. You should make note of the difference between the hygrometer reading from 75%. Remember this difference.
5. Remove the hygrometer from the bag.
6. When the hygrometer has been removed from the bag, the reading on it will change. You will need to adjust the new reading plus or minus the difference you noted from #4 above. You will make this adjustment using a small screwdriver to turn the adjustment tab on the back of the hygrometer while watching the reading on the front.
7. Your hygrometer should now be properly calibrated. You can put it into your humidor.
8. Wait a few days to be sure that the hygrometer registers the 70% humidity that is ideal for a humidor before adding the cigars.

Charging Humidifier:

1. Remove the humidifier from the humidor.
2. Fill the humidifier initially with humidor solution. This is sometimes also called PG solution, charging fluid or poly glycol. To fill the humidifier, simply squirt the solution through the vents of the device. The device should be well moistened, but not saturated.

Wipe down the element to remove any excess moisture; then rest it upside down on a towel for half an hour to remove any remaining excess. Your humidifier is now ready to be re-inserted into the humidor.