

STILL SPIRITS

AIR STILL

— PRO —

STARTER GUIDE



## **WARNING: POWER SUITABILITY**

- If your local power supply is 110V (e.g. USA/Canada), ensure that your boiler and head unit are both 110V. This is shown on the rating label.
- If your local power supply is 220V, ensure that your boiler and head unit are both 220V. This is shown on the rating label.

## **PLEASE READ ALL OF THESE SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE USING YOUR AIR STILL PRO**

### **General Safety**

- This appliance should not be used by children. Keep the appliance and its cord out of reach of children.
- This appliance is not intended for use by persons with reduced physical, sensory or mental capabilities, or lack of experience and knowledge, unless they have been given supervision or instruction concerning use of the appliance by a person responsible for their safety.
- People with colour blindness can still operate this product by using the sound prompts programmed into the device.
- This appliance is intended to be used in household and similar applications such as:
  - Kitchen areas in shops, offices and other working environments;
  - By clients in hotels, motels, bed and breakfasts, campers and other residential type environments.
- Do not remove any labels from the product.
- **WARNING:** Misuse of this distillation unit could cause potential injury to the user.

### **Operational Safety**

- The distillation unit should always be run on a flat dry surface in a well-ventilated area.
- Always keep the connectors dry and avoid spillage on the connectors when using this unit.
- Always turn the unit off at the mode selector button, and then at the mains power point.
- Before each distillation, check the power cords are in good condition and connected to the unit to avoid a bad connection or damage to the distillation unit.
- If the supply cord is damaged, it must be replaced by the manufacturer, service agent, or a similarly qualified person.
- Never immerse the unit in water, or allow the boiler base or the head unit to become wet inside.
- Do not remove the head unit when the unit is operating.
- Do not remove the column cap when the unit is operating.
- The heating element surface is subject to residual heat after use. Allow at least 20 minutes for cooling after switching the power off before you remove the head unit. It is important that the unit cools down before reusing.
- Be aware that the unit contains boiling liquid during operation. Outside of normal operating conditions, the head unit may lift without warning, allowing hot vapour to escape. Allow plenty of free space around the product while operating.
- As much as possible, keep hands and face clear from the immediate vicinity of the distillation unit when operating.
- Do not put any liquid in the boiler that is higher than 40% ABV (alcohol by volume).
- Do not operate the unit unattended.
- The unit has been designed to operate best at ambient temperatures of up to 25°C (77°F). Do not operate above ambient temperatures of 40°C (104°F). Using the unit at higher ambient temperatures could result in unsafe operation.
- The boiler is fitted with a high temperature cut out. In the event of a dry boil, the reset switch mechanism will trip and cut power to the heating element. If this happens, wait for the unit to cool down. Press the reset button on the base of the unit before operating it again. Check the red light on the boiler is on to confirm the heating element is working.
- Check that the weir in the column is clear of any obstructions that may restrict the flow of liquid return down the column.
- Always ensure that the foreshots collection vial is installed for cleaning and distillation.
- Always discard the contents of your foreshots collection vial after each use. Do not consume.
- Do not use other distilling boilers due to size and boil power differences.
- Do not use other power cables.
- Do not use the **Air Still Pro boiler with an Air Still head unit**. This is because the Air Still Pro boiler does not have an ON/OFF switch. Actions may void the warranty of the Air Still Pro.



# YOUR AIR STILL PRO DISTILLING JOURNEY STARTS HERE. CHEERS.

This **Starter Guide** is designed to get you going with your first distillation on the Air Still Pro. These instructions cover assembly, initial clean of the system, how to complete your first distillation, and some key Air Still Pro information.

## WARNING:

Distillation is best completed in a continuous, uninterrupted run. However, if you need to pause your distillation and resume later, you will need to follow these instructions:

1. Ensure the boiler and liquid inside are fully cooled.
2. Before recommencing the distillation run, you must aerate the wash in the boiler. To do this simply empty the wash from the boiler into another container and then return it back into the boiler. This is designed to add air into the remaining wash so the more movement created in the liquid through this transfer and return process, the better.
3. Add additional Ceramic Boil Enhancers that are completely dry.
4. Recommence the distillation run and finish as per standard instructions.

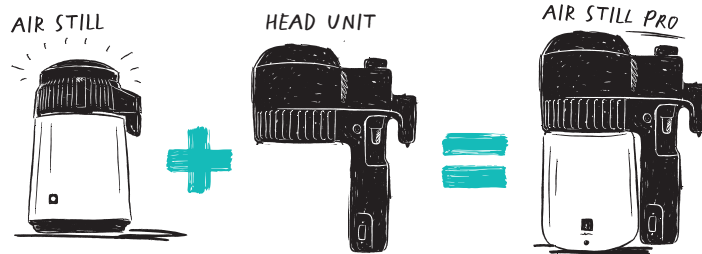
**NOTE:** In rare cases, failure to do the above can result in an unsafe operation due to the possibility of superheating the remaining wash, caused through it being purified and degassed. Following the above instructions will ensure this does not occur.

## FULL INSTRUCTIONS:

For full details on your Air Still Pro along with additional information on the distilling process, please visit [stillspirits.com/air-still-pro-instructions](https://stillspirits.com/air-still-pro-instructions) or scan the QR code.



**Note:** If you have purchased an Air Still Pro head unit only (as opposed to the full Air Still Pro system), you will need a Still Spirits Air Still boiler and the accompanying Still Spirits Air Still power cable to transform your Air Still into the revolutionary Air Still Pro.



# ANATOMY DIAGRAM



## ABOUT YOUR AIR STILL PRO

### Understanding Distilling Modes

The Air Still Pro has two different distilling modes; reflux mode (reflux column distillation) or pot still mode (just like the traditional Air Still, pot still condenser distillation).

- When using reflux mode, the column needs to have packing material (stainless steel and copper saddles) inside. Reflux mode is best used to produce neutral spirits such as Gin and Vodka.
- When using pot still mode, remove the packing material from the column. Pot still mode is best used to produce flavoured spirits such as Rum, Whisky and Brandy.

For more information on what mode is best for making different types of spirits, please refer to the full instructions linked on page 2.

### Integrated Foreshots Collection

The Air Still Pro automatically collects the foreshots into a 30 ml (1 US fl oz) vial. This volume is to be discarded (not consumed) at the end of each run.

Do not remove the vial until you have finished your distillation and the unit has been switched off.



### Reduced Energy Consumption

The Air Still Pro only runs the fan and pump when needed which improves the life of the fan motor and reduces power consumption. Once a distillation mode has been selected and a distillation commences, the fan and pump will run for 5 seconds each to confirm these two parts are working correctly. The fan and pump then remain silent until the still has reached distillation temperature which is when they will start operating.

### Automatic Shut Down

When in **reflux mode**, the Air Still Pro automatically powers the unit off once the alcohol has been distilled out of the boiler. In the event of any extreme temperature increases or decreases during **reflux mode** that may occur, the Air Still Pro will automatically shut itself off. The unit shuts off after performing three loud warning beeps and the mode selector button will continuously flash red.

In **pot still mode**, the shut off temperature is disabled, allowing users to make cuts to their ABV (alcohol by volume) preference but needing to manually turn the system off.

# CLEANING

Before using your Air Still Pro, we recommend cleaning the boiler and head unit to remove any manufacturing debris or residues. See detailed instructions below.

Follow the below instructions to complete a cleaning cycle with a vinegar and water solution using pot still mode. We recommend running a cleaning cycle before your first distillation and then after every 4-6 distillation runs.

- 1 Fill the spare foreshots collection vial with 15 ml (0.5 US fl oz) vinegar and 15 ml (0.5 US fl oz) hot water. Remove the pre-fitted reflux distillation tip "R" from the unit and put both distillation tips ("R" and "P") in the vial to soak for 1 hour. Rinse the tips and vial with water after soaking.
- 2 Add 500 ml (17 US fl oz) of boiling water and 500 ml (17 US fl oz) of white vinegar to your boiler.
- 3 Fit the pot still distillation tip "P" onto the system using the spanner provided.
- 4 Place the Air Still Pro head unit onto the boiler. Ensure the Air Still Pro head unit is aligned on the boiler correctly so that the power cord from the Air Still Pro head unit can reach the boiler power socket. Firmly press the Air Still Pro head unit onto the boiler. Ensure that the silicone seal is firmly pressed down into the boiler and not visible.
- 5 Connect the power cord that's attached to the head unit to the boiler's power socket. Then connect the long power cord into the plug socket on the head unit and into your wall socket.
- 6 Place a collection container under the spirit output (600 ml [20 US fl oz] or greater).
- 7 Remove the foreshots collection vial from the head unit and fill it with cold water. Remove the column cap and botanical basket and slowly pour the water down the centre of the column. Reinstall the foreshots collection vial and botanicals basket and firmly press the cap back on.
- 8 Press the distilling mode selector button once to enter standby mode. The button light will turn white.
- 9 Press and hold the mode selector button until the colour turns purple, then release to enter pot still mode. The light will pulse purple, and you will hear 2 beeps to confirm you have entered pot still mode. The fan and pump will briefly turn on and then off - a whining noise may occur for a few seconds while the pump primes itself.
- 10 Check the boiler light is illuminated red (this confirms the boiler heating element is working correctly).
- 11 Once the boiler has reached temperature (this should take around 15 minutes) the fan and pump will turn on. Your system is now cleaning itself.
- 12 Let the system run for 1 hour - over this time cleaning fluid may drip into your collection vessel. After 1 hour, turn off the power switch at the wall.
- 13 Allow at least 20 minutes for the system to cool down. Failing to do this may result in hot vapour burns, which can cause serious injury. Then remove the glass vial and the Air Still Pro head unit from the boiler.
- 14 Empty the boiler and vial and rinse with water.
- 15 Once cool, remove the column cap. Pour water continuously down the reflux column until it starts to flow out of the small outlet on the underside of the head unit. Do this over a kitchen sink, or similar. This will help flush out any remaining vinegar or residues. **Note:** Water will also come out of the distillation tip.
- 16 Your system is now ready for distilling.



# DISTILLING

Let's get started with your first distillation. If distilling in reflux mode, this is called a spirit run. If distilling in pot still mode, this is called a stripping run. At the end of this distillation, you will have either a neutral spirit (reflux mode) or a more flavourful spirit (pot still mode) to then choose whether to age, infuse or flavour. You'll need to have a wash made and ready to go. See full instructions for more information on wash creation, distilling mode selections and flavouring techniques.

## 1 PREPARING TO DISTILL

To ensure you don't get any surge boiling in the still, we recommend adding Still Spirits Distilling Conditioner and Still Spirits Ceramic Boil Enhancers to the boiler. (If a conditioner or defoaming agent and boil enhancers are not used, you may experience surging, foaming, and/or temperature fluctuations resulting in a lower than normal ABV or early autocomplete in reflux mode.)



2 Fill your boiler to the full line with 4 L (1.06 US Gal) of wash no greater than 40% ABV (alcohol by volume).

3 Ensure the Air Still Pro head unit is aligned on the boiler correctly so that the head unit power cord can reach the boiler power socket. Firmly press the head unit onto the boiler so that the silicone seal is not visible.



4

Check that your foreshots collection vial is fitted securely.

5

If using in **reflux mode**, remove the column cap and botanical basket and check the column packing materials (copper and stainless steel saddles) are sitting below the weir. **Note:** the weir is indicated in the image below, circled in blue. The weir allows liquid to return down the column without allowing vapour to pass through.

If using in **pot still mode**, remove the column cap and botanical basket and remove the packing materials.

If not using the botanical basket, remove it from the top of the column.

Firmly press the column cap on.

6

Connect the head unit power cord to the boiler power socket.

Then connect the long power cord into the plug socket on the head unit and into your wall socket.





**7** Place a collection jar under the distillation tip. We recommend at least an 800 ml (27 US fl oz) vessel or use several smaller jars if you are taking cuts.



**10 START DISTILLATION**

Your distillation run has now started. Depending on your wash and ambient temperatures it could take between 60-90 minutes for the first spirit drips to appear.



**8** Press the mode selector button once to enter standby mode. The button light will glow white.



**9** Choose your distilling mode: See page 3 "Understanding distilling modes" for information on the difference between reflux mode and pot still mode.

**For reflux mode:**

Fit your reflux distillation tip "R". Push the mode selector button and release when the button glows green. A pulsing green light and 1 beep will confirm that your reflux mode run has begun.



**For pot still mode:**

Fit your pot still distillation tip "P". Push the mode selector button and release when the button glows purple. A pulsing purple light and 2 beeps will confirm that your pot still mode run has begun.



**11 COMPLETE DISTILLATION**

**In reflux mode:** After approximately 4 hours your distillation will be complete. The unit will automatically turn itself off once all the alcohol has been distilled out. Your distillation run time will vary depending on your wash. In the event of extremely high temperature increase or decrease, the unit will automatically power itself off.  
**In pot still mode:** Your system will not automatically shut off in this mode so you will need to determine when the distillation is complete. This is done through the assessment of cuts and you will need to manually power the unit off by pressing the mode selector button.

**12 COOL UNIT**

Let the Air Still Pro cool for at least 20 minutes then remove the Air Still Pro head unit from the boiler, empty the boiler and dispose of the foreshots in the collection vial (do not consume). Rinse and clean your Air Still Pro after use. **Note:** Refer to full instructions for cleaning information.

**13 DILUTE, FILTER AND FLAVOUR**

If flavouring your spirit run (completed in reflux mode), dilute your spirit with drinking water to approx. 38-40% ABV (alcohol by volume) and then filter (using filtration method of your choice) and flavour. If it was a stripping run (completed in pot still mode), then dilute to 40% or lower and store appropriately until you do a spirit run from where you can then age and treat accordingly. See full instructions for more information.

**Botanicals**

If using the botanical basket ensure you are in pot still mode and the column is empty of saddles. Fill the basket with your botanicals of choice and place the basket in the top of the column. Firmly press the column cap on. If you're wanting to make a spirit with botanicals, we recommend doing a spirit run (in reflux mode) with your wash and then using botanicals on your next distillation in pot still mode (diluted to 40% ABV or below). There are many ways to use botanicals and users will experiment different ways to perfect their preferred style.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE IN USING YOUR AIR STILL PRO, VISIT [stillspirits.com/air-still-pro-help](https://stillspirits.com/air-still-pro-help)**

## MASTER THE ART

WE'RE PASSIONATE ABOUT MAKING SPIRITS, AND WE WANT YOU TO BE TOO. WE KNOW THERE'S NOTHING BETTER THAN ENJOYING AND SHARING THE SPIRIT YOU HAVE CRAFTED. WHETHER YOU'RE STARTING TODAY OR ARE ON YOUR WAY TO MASTERING THE ART, WE'RE HERE TO INSPIRE YOU TO MAKE GREAT SPIRITS. EVERYTHING WE CREATE IS DESIGNED TO HELP YOU DISTILL WITH CREATIVITY AND CONFIDENCE AS YOU HONE YOUR CRAFT. ENJOY THE PROCESS, ENJOY THE JOURNEY AND (OF COURSE) ENJOY THE END RESULT.

CHEERS



DESIGNED  
IN  
\*NEW ZEALAND\*

### CORRECT DISPOSAL OF THIS PRODUCT:

This marking indicates that this product should not be disposed with other household wastes throughout the EU. To prevent possible harm to the environment or human health from uncontrolled waste disposal, recycle it responsibly to promote the sustainable reuse of material resources. To return your used device, please use the return and collection systems or contact the retailer where the product was purchased. They can take this product for environmentally safe recycling.



[www.stillspirits.com](http://www.stillspirits.com)



Please dispose  
of packaging  
thoughtfully.

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