

Checklist for Starting Your First Colony

The Honey Company
Pure, Raw, Natural
Since 1890



What do I Need For My First Colony?

Note: To make it easier to choose, and to save time and money, we recommend only the essential items in this guide. There are a lot of variations that will work, but our favorites are in parentheses.

- A Honey Bee Colony (Nucleus Colony)
 - Pre-Order a colony from our online shop between February and April
- A Hive (Langstroth Hive)
 - Build your own or order from a beekeeping supply company before your bees arrive.
 - 1 Bottom Board (Solid over screened)
 - Boxes (4 Deep boxes)
 - Frames (40 Deep Frames with plastic foundation)
 - 1 Lid (Migratory over telescoping)
- Protective Clothing
 - Options include a bee suit, bee jacket, or a beekeeping veil (Bee jacket)
 - Beekeeping gloves (Kid leather gloves with fabric gauntlet/sleeve that covers the forearm, avoid mesh at the wrist)
- Bee Smoker (4x7 smoker with guard and leather bellows)
- 1-2 Hive tools (Standard pry bar style over hook, we recommend getting two)
- Feeder (Deep Frame feeder, we use a stick as a float instead of caps and ladders)
- Hive Stand (Wooden 4'x4' pallet or cinder blocks)
- Way to Learn About Beekeeping
 - Sign up For A Membership to The Honey Company for courses, videos, etc.
- An apiary, or place to keep your hives
- A Way to Extract Honey in the Fall (Extractor and Bottling Kit)