HOME HYDROPONICS HUB

Beginner Hydroponics Quick-Start Checklist

A practical one-page guide for your first small hydroponic garden.

01 PLAN YOUR FIRST GROW

- [ ] Choose one easy crop, such as lettuce or basil.
- [ ] Pick a spot with room for the mature plant and access to power if needed.
- [ ] Select a simple system: Kratky, deep water culture (DWC), or a countertop kit.

02 GATHER ONLY THE ESSENTIALS

- [ ] Light-blocking reservoir or an appropriate ready-made growing unit.
- [ ] Net pots/supports and a suitable growing medium (if your system uses them).
- [ ] Hydroponic nutrients, clean water, and a way to check pH.
- [ ] A suitable grow light if natural light is insufficient.
- [ ] For DWC: air pump, tubing, and air stone; not needed for passive Kratky.

03 SET UP CAREFULLY

- [ ] Clean equipment and assemble it according to the system instructions.
- [ ] Prepare nutrient solution following the product label and crop guidance.
- [ ] Check pH and adjust cautiously if needed; follow product safety directions.
- [ ] Set the water level and root/air access for the system you chose.
- [ ] Position the light and confirm pumps or timers work, if used.

04 KEEP A SIMPLE ROUTINE

- [ ] Check plant appearance, water level, and equipment regularly.
- [ ] Watch for yellowing, wilting, algae, or unhealthy-looking roots.
- [ ] Monitor pH and nutrient strength as appropriate for your setup.
- [ ] Top up or replace solution according to the system and crop needs.
- [ ] Record changes and harvest when the crop is ready.

START SMALL. OBSERVE. ADJUST ONE THING AT A TIME.