



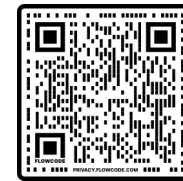
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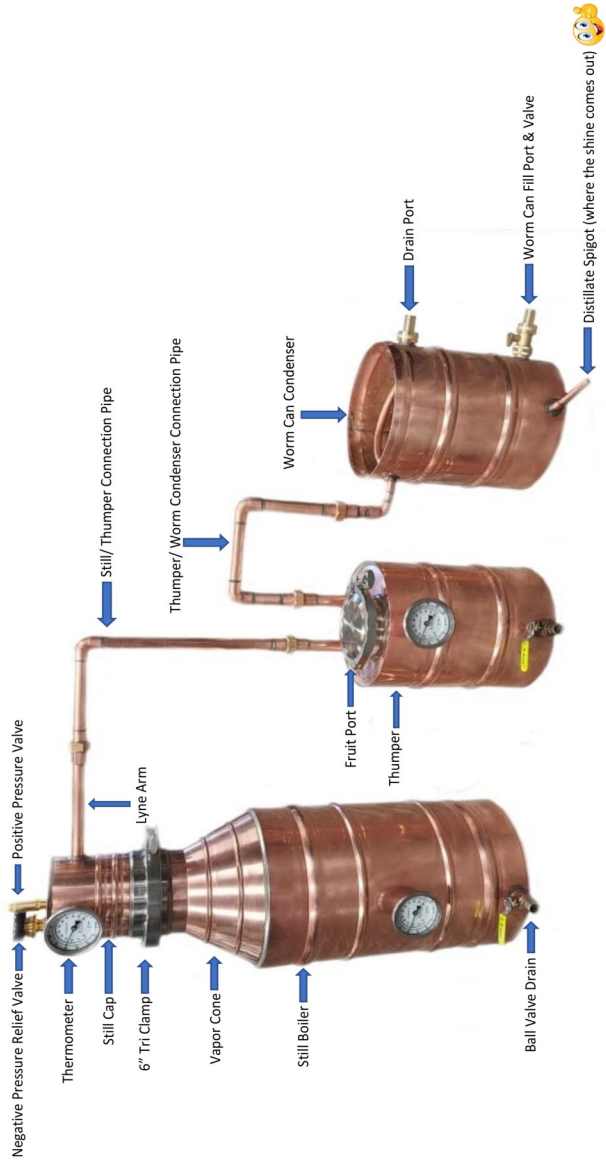
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For detailed instructions on Setup, Fermentation, Distillation, etc., please visit our resources page on our website. We have photos, videos, and tons of recipes to get you going!  
[www.ngstillco.com](http://www.ngstillco.com)

- Never create a blockage in your still by putting solids in it. Only well strained liquid goes in the still pot. We recommend your final strain of the wash is run through 4 layers of cheesecloth.
- Do not overfill your thumper. Only put a MAXIMUM of 1-2 inches of liquid in the bottom of the thumper. Just enough to submerge the inlet tube that is connected to the still.
- Do not hook your thumper up backwards. The inlet tube must always be connected to the still lyne arm. The thumper inlet tube is the long tube that goes to the bottom of the thumper canister.
- When heating a still pot with a propane burner or similar heating system, ensure you are in a well-ventilated area.
- When heating your still with a propane burner, build a sturdy base using cinder blocks or similar concrete blocks. Create a horseshoe structure around the burner, and use enough blocks to elevate the bottom of the still 6"-8" above the burner. Use 3-4 sticks of angle iron to lay across the top of the blocks, creating a sturdy platform for the still. Do not turn the burner up so high that the flames come in contact with the bottom of the still. You want the heat from the flame to heat the still without the flame coming in contact with the still. For a visual, review the photos on our website Resource Tab labeled "Set Up Photos". We recommend using a thin piece of tin or similar metal to place between the bottom of the still and heat source. This will protect the bottom of the still in the event you have your flames too high.
- Always have cold water circulating in the worm condenser as the still is producing alcohol vapors. This will condense the alcohol vapors back into a liquid distillate. Run the cold water into the bottom port and drain from the top port on the condenser can.
- At the completion of a distillation run, CAREFULLY using heat rated Gloves or oven mitts, disconnect and remove the copper tubing that connects the still and thumper inlet. The tubing will be very hot so be safe to avoid burning yourself or others. This will ensure that negative pressure build up does not collapse your still pot.
- You need PTFE plumbers' tape to wrap all your threaded fittings 2-4 times around to ensure a watertight seal when you screw them in. (i.e. Thermometer, Pressure Relief Valves, Plumbers union between components).

## COPPER STILL SET-UP GUIDE:

You will need to do a little prep work to get your beauty set up and ready for action. You will need the following:

- White Vinegar
- Salt
- Gloves
- Dish Brush OR New Toilet Brush
- PTFE Tape

### CLEANING:

Before the first use of your still, we recommend washing the inside with a salt and vinegar mixture: ½ cup of salt and 1 gallon of vinegar. Heat the vinegar to about 110-115 degrees. Pour your mixture into your equipment. Using your brush, scrub the inside of your pot and cap. Then, pour the mixture into your worm and thumper and clean those as well. Once all equipment has been cleaned, rinse everything with fresh water. Repeat as necessary. After the initial cleaning, you'll want to do a "cleaning run" (once your set-up is complete), by distilling fresh water with 1 cup of vinegar per 5 gallons of water to help clean the lines. Do not run cold water to the worm, to allow vapor to clean coil during cleaning run. Remember to rinse everything with fresh water when done.

### SETUP:

To get your still ready to run, you'll need to install your thermometers, drains, and pressure valves. Using PTFE tape, wrap the male threads. Wrap the threads at least 3-5 times. More tape can be added to help orientate the drains and thermometers properly. Thread them in by hand until tight. Then use a wrench to give them another 1/4 to 1/2 turn. This should seal them in properly. If your still came with unions, you may also use PTFE tape to help lubricate (protect) and seal the connection point. Same as above- unions only need to be tightened slightly past hand tight. Stills with tri clamp fittings do not require tools and only need the nut to be finger tight to make a good seal.

\*If you aren't using an NGSC thumper, place a few inches of water inside your thumper. You can now determine input/output by blowing into each pipe. The line that bubbles will be your input.



### **RUNNING:**

Before a run, fill your thumper with liquor/tails, water, or mash. Just enough to completely cover the input, which extends all the way to the bottom of your thumper. Some people save a little liquor from previous runs (heads/tails) to use in their thumpers. Your thumper acts as a second distillation center, and will help you net a higher proof. We prefer to use wash most times.

The most effective way to cool your worm coil is to use the small tubes in the side of the can. One at the top and one near the bottom. Using clear vinyl tubing, connect your inlet to the garden hose, or pump, then to the bottom tube. Run your outlet (top tube) to your desired location. You will want to throttle the flow on your hose or pump to get the perfect cycle of cool water. If you selected a sealed worm- please do not over pressurize. Sealed worms are not meant to withstand high water pressure. Do not block water outlet! Start slow and work your way up. When you are finished with your distillation run, disconnect the fitting between the still cap and thumper immediately to allow for proper cool down. This will prevent your still from collapsing in on itself if it cools down too quickly. If your still was ordered with a vacuum pressure valve, that helps prevent this issue.

\*\*If using a propane burner/direct flame, we recommend using a piece of tin or thin sheet metal between the flame and your pot. This barrier will protect against scorching your new still, possibly liquefying the solder, and having the bottom fall out if you run it too hot.

*"All of us at North Georgia Still Company are extremely pleased to have you as a customer! We believe in employing the best American Craftsman, to bring you the best American made product. Please remember to contact us if you have any issues with your equipment. Our goal is to have raving fans!"*

- Never operate distillation equipment without first reading and understanding all safety instructions and manufacturer warnings. If you have questions, immediately contact the manufacturer for further guidance and explanations of the instructions at [jeff@ngstillco.com](mailto:jeff@ngstillco.com) or by phone at 770-374-8990.
- Always do a cleaning run for the first run in your still. This allows you to check your still for leaks during the run to make sure it is safe for use.
- Never attempt to run a still if there is a leak. Make sure to check for leaks before running the still, and periodically during the run. If you find a leak, immediately stop.
- Never leave a still unattended while running.
- Always check to make sure there are no blockages in your still, and that your still is in good working order before every run.
- When operating a still that is heated internally with an electric heating element, ensure that the still is filled with liquid that is 40 proof or less prior to turning power on to the heating element. Never turn the power on to the heating element PRIOR to filling the still with your wash.
- Always fill your still to the capacity rating of the still. NGSC capacity rating is based on the body cylinder of the still main pot (the bottom of the vapor cone is a full still).
- Never overfill the still above its capacity rating, or so high in the still that it fills the vapor cone.
- Always consult a professional electrician if using an electric heat system that requires electrical wiring or work.
- Always monitor the liquid level in your still; as it runs, the liquid level will change.
- We recommend building a sturdy platform using plywood, 2x4s and 4x4s. Build it wide enough and long enough to place all components of your still safely and securely on it. Build it tall enough to be able to put your collection jar under the worm condenser outlet where you will collect your distillate.