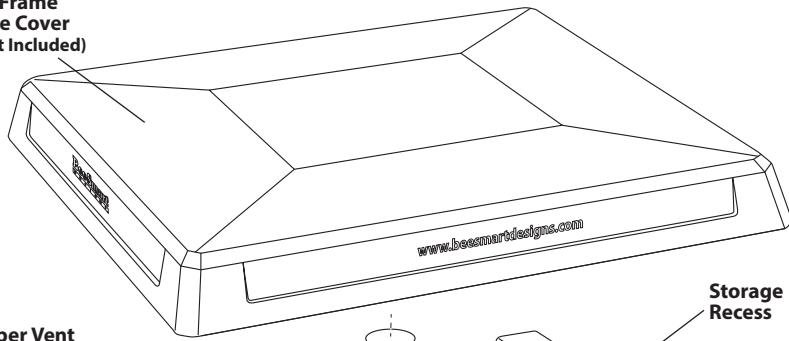


10-Frame  
Hive Cover  
(Not Included)



Upper Vent  
Cap (1)

Storage  
Recess

R-10  
Insulation  
Board

Finger  
Grips

Upper  
Entrance  
Tunnel

Hive Tool  
Access Point

Upper Entrance  
Access Points

Upper Box  
Support

Alignment  
Pins

Entrance/  
Ventilation  
Disk (1)

8-Frame or  
10-Frame Box  
(Not Included)

**Bee Smart**  
DESIGNS

195 Atlantic Avenue • Garden City Park, New York 11040

**1-800-600-7446**

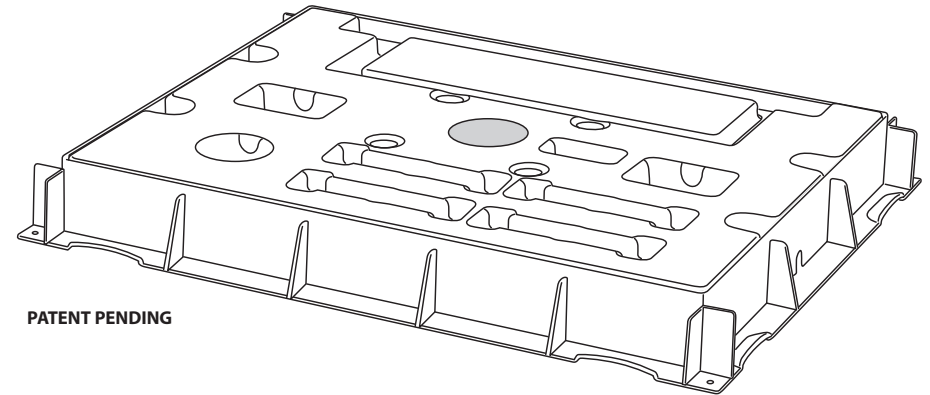
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BSD user guide insulation i-c; 2021

# **Bee Smart** Ultimate DESIGNS Insulated Inner Hive Cover

## USER GUIDE



PATENT PENDING

### QUICK START

- Remove outer telescoping cover and existing inner cover.
- Place **Insulated Inner Cover** on top box (brood or honey super) and align the 4 corner pins to sit inside the box to keep it centered and prevent movement. **Insulated Inner Cover** fits any standard 8-frame or 10-frame Langstroth box.
- Install 10-frame telescoping cover, Bee Smart Cover or traditional 10-frame wooden cover. 8-frame covers are not compatible with the **Insulated Inner Cover**. Bee Smart offers the 'DUO™' Cover/**Insulated Inner Cover** combination package that gives the benefits and advanced features of both products, along with savings.
- If you want to install the **Entrance Disk** install it below the hand hold and then use the center hole on the vent portion to locate the spot to drill a hole ( $\frac{1}{2}$ " - 1"). Screw is not provided.
- The **Insulated Inner Cover** ships with the upper entrance feature closed plus the **Entrance Disk** under the foam and top cap stored in its recess.
- There are storage compartments for a Bee Smart Robbing Screen, Bottom Board mouse guards/entrance reducers and 3-Season Feeder feet to keep things organized and secure/handy when not in use.

## SUMMER USE

- Remove **Center Cap** from Center Hole and store it on top of **Insulation Board**.
- If using **Entrance Disk** rotate to Open, Vent or Queen Excluder position, in Open position you can adjust the amount of opening. If robbing looks imminent put into Vent position.

## WINTER USE

During the winter you have 3 options

- Sealed top
- Top upper entrance
- Middle upper entrance

### • Sealed Top (Darwinian) Option

- Install the 1.5" diameter **Upper Vent Cap** in the center hole. Make sure to remove after Winter and store on top of **Insulation Board**.
- Make sure that the **Upper Entrance** feature is shut off; this is how the **Insulated Inner Cover** is shipped. To check, lift the **Insulation Board**, using the **Finger Grips** on each end, and make sure that the **Tunnel** section is on the side away from the doorways in the center tube and front wall, then reinstall.

*NOTE this option allows the bees to maintain their micro climate with the top of the hive retaining warmth; also any excess moisture will condense on the side walls where it will not drip on the bees yet provide water if needed.*

### • Top Upper Entrance Option

- Make sure that the **Top Upper Entrance** feature is active. To check lift the **Insulation Board**, using the **Finger Grips** on each end, and make sure that the **Tunnel** section is on the side with the doorways in the center tube and front wall, then reinstall. This is the opposite way that the **Insulated Inner Cover** is shipped.
- The **Top Upper Entrance** feature should be shut off during the season to prevent robbing. Just rotate the **Insulation Insert** back to its original position.

*NOTE this option creates draft in the hive since the upper entrance acts like a chimney which makes it harder for the bees to maintain their micro climate which is needed to reduce stress and energy requirements.*

### • Middle Upper Entrance Option

- Make sure that the **Top Upper Entrance** feature is shut off. To check, lift the

**Insulation Board**, using the **Finger Grips** on each end, and make sure that the **Tunnel** section is on the side away from the doorways in the center tube and front wall, then reinstall, this is the way that the **Insulated Inner Cover** is shipped.

- Rotate the **Entrance Disk** to the Open or partially Open position to create an **Upper Entrance** below the heat bubble.
- The **Middle Upper Entrance** feature should remain in the Vent or Closed mode after the nectar flow or if robbing is suspected.

*NOTE this option creates a much smaller draft in the hive, below the heat bubble created above the hole, and prevents the Top Upper Entrance from acting like a chimney which makes it harder for the bees to maintain their micro climate which is needed to reduce stress and energy requirements.*

### • Other Winter Options

- Mountain Camp Feeder; add a shim under the **Insulated Inner Cover** then lay newspaper on top bars and add dry sugar.
- Candy Board; make a candy board and install under the **Insulated Inner Cover**.
- Fondant; add a shim under the **Insulated Inner Cover** and then add Fondant.
- Quilt Box; cover the center hole with a screen or porous material, add a 10-frame box and fill with absorbent material and then install cover.

## FEEDER USE

- The **Insulated Inner Cover** works with most 10-frame top feeders, and In-Hive feeders, including the Bee Smart 3-Season In-Hive Feeder and Miller style feeders that allow access from the center hole in the inner cover.
- The Bee Smart 3 Season In-Hive Feeder can be used for Spring build up, Fall feeding and as an emergency Winter feeder. This easily fits inside a medium box above the **Insulated Inner Cover** and does not interfere with the Sealed or Upper Entrance options.
- The Bee Smart 3 Season In-Hive Feeder can be used with its Riser Feet to provide ventilation during the warmer months or without the Riser Feet to eliminate ventilation during the Winter.