

## Setup of your new humidor

Initially you should wipe all wooden surfaces inside the humidor using a lint-free piece of cloth or an ordinary household sponge, which should be moistened with distilled water. Next you place a shallow container with distilled water inside the humidor and wait three days before removing it. This is necessary for the humidor to reach its basic humidity.

## The core of your humidor: humidification

In most cases, your humidifier will be based on acrylic polymer. This kind of humidifier has to be placed in distilled water for 10 minutes for the crystals within to absorb a sufficient amount of moisture. Dry it off afterwards.

An alternative to a humidifier are humidification packs (e.g. Humidipaks by Boveda) which keep the relative humidity of the air at a stable level by adding or removing moisture. The packs are laid inside the humidor and need neither activation nor maintenance.

## The correct use of a hygrometer

In order to accurately measure the humidity within your humidor, an analogue hygrometer has to be calibrated (for a digital hygrometer, this step is skipped). Two methods are recommended:

- Cloth method: Wrap the hygrometer in a wet piece of cloth and place it in an enclosed room for an hour. Afterwards you set the relative air humidity to 98%.
- Salt method: Mix one table spoon of salt with a few drops of water in an ordinary shot glass. Now place this shot glass and your hygrometer in a plastic container (e.g. a sealable plastic bag or box). Wait for 8 hours, then you can open the container and set the relative air humidity to 75%.

## The level of humidity

A humidor's air humidity should measure between 65 and 75%. If the relative humidity measures below 65%, the humidification system should be refilled, if it exceeds 75%, the humidor should be aired. A few minutes can already be enough.