

Cage Opening Instructions

To open, simply twist while gently pulling from each end. Hold the top and bottom rims of the cage and slowly twist in opposite directions. While twisting, allow the pressure from the expansion support bars to push the cage open – **be careful not to “pull” the cage open as this may cause the support bars to pull out of the seam.**



Instructions For Transferring Butterflies Into Cage

1. Pop open the cage.
2. Read the transfer instruction sheet on other side of this page first.
3. Place the shipping container and the release cage in a small room with low ceilings (a bathroom or large closet is perfect) and shut the door while you are preparing to make the transfer.
4. Remove the butterflies from the original shipping container.
5. Open the Velcro slot in the fabric at the top of the cage to create a slight opening for the butterflies to slip through.
6. Pick up each envelope one at a time and then slip them through the slot (with the 2 or more butterflies still in the envelope) at the top of the cage.
7. Open (or tear) the envelope upside down and let the butterfly slide out of the opening of the envelope onto the bottom of the cage. As they warm up, the butterflies will eventually start fluttering their wings and flopping about. This is normal. Keep up your work until all the butterflies are transferred. Most will fall to the bottom, but eventually will crawl up the sides as they warm up.
8. To release, simply untie the ribbon at the top and pull the Velcro slot so that the entire top is freely open allowing all the butterflies to escape.

Note - you should be able to transfer all the butterflies into your box or cage with no escapees. However, should a butterfly escape during the transfer process, you will need to recapture it. Butterflies are attracted to light, so the escapee will likely fly toward a window or other source of light in the room. Simply pick it up by the wings (which will be closed). Alternately, you can cup your hands around the escapee if the wings aren't closed and transfer it to the box or cage. Despite what you've always been told, handling a butterfly gently will not harm it.

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