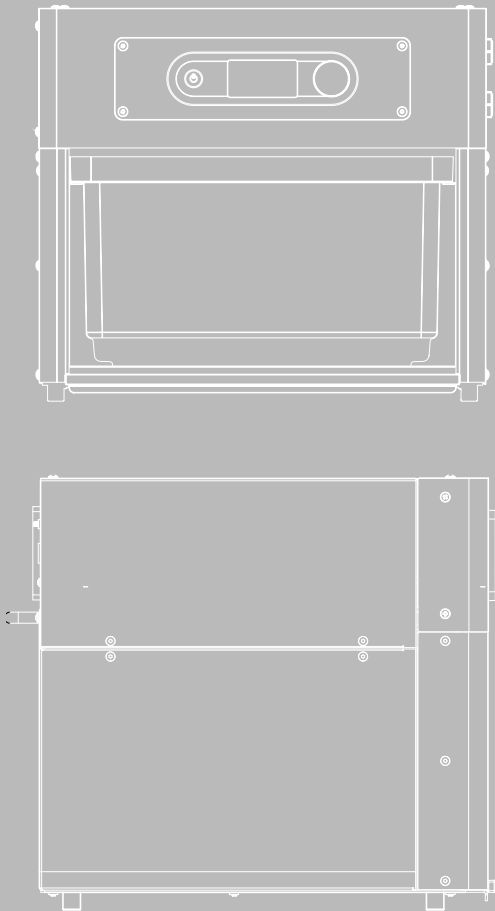


# PICOBREW Z SERIES



User's Manual

v. 19-0114





# **PICOBREW Z SERIES**

User Manual

version 19-0114

# Important Safety Information

- Exercise common sense while operating the Z.
- Always use the keg cozy to shield the hot metal of the keg.
- Close supervision is needed when used around children.
- Allow machine to fully cool before removing or replacing parts.
- Do not operate with a frayed cord or broken plug.
- Do not remove Step Filter from the Z unless in pause mode or brew cycle is completed.
- The Step Filter and contents may be hot when removing from the machine.
- Do not immerse or soak the machine.
- Make sure all hoses are connected before starting a brewing, rinsing or cleaning cycle.
- To avoid risk of electrical shock hazard do not disassemble the Z. There are no user serviceable parts inside.
- Various surfaces can get extremely hot during the brewing cycle, use caution when handling the keg, hoses and components.
- Do not remove the hose clamps, hot liquid spray may result.
- Do not remove the keg attachments while brewing.

# WHAT'S IN THE BOX

## BOX #1

- Z Heating Module

## BOX #2

### Module components

- Z Brewing Ingredients Module
- Assembly Screws (4 Black, 2 Stainless)
- T20 Screw Driver
- Drip Mat
- Heating Module Power Cord

### Step Filter components

- Step Filter
- Step Filter Plug (3)
- Step Filter Lid
- Drain Tube
- Drain Tube Grommet (2)
- Adjunct Compartment
- Top Mash Screen
- Bottom Mash Screen
- Adjunct Screen
- Hop Cages and Lids (4 each)

### Accessories

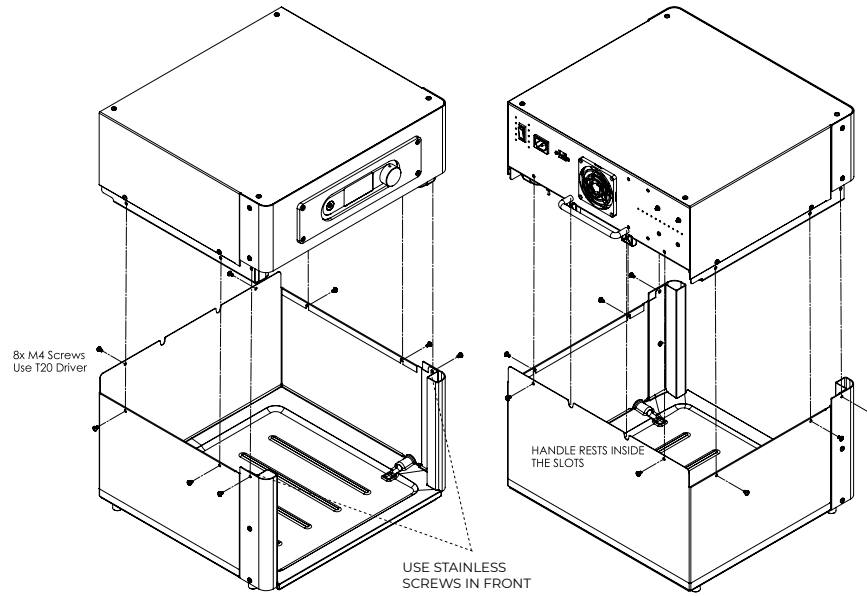
- Keg Cozy
- Keg Seal
- Keg Seal Plug
- Foam Trap
- Syringe
- Transfer Tube
- Bottle of Anti-Foam
- Fast Fermentation Adapter
- Cleaning Tubes (2)
- Dishwasher Tablet
- Dip Tube Cleaning Brush

## BOX #3 (KEG)

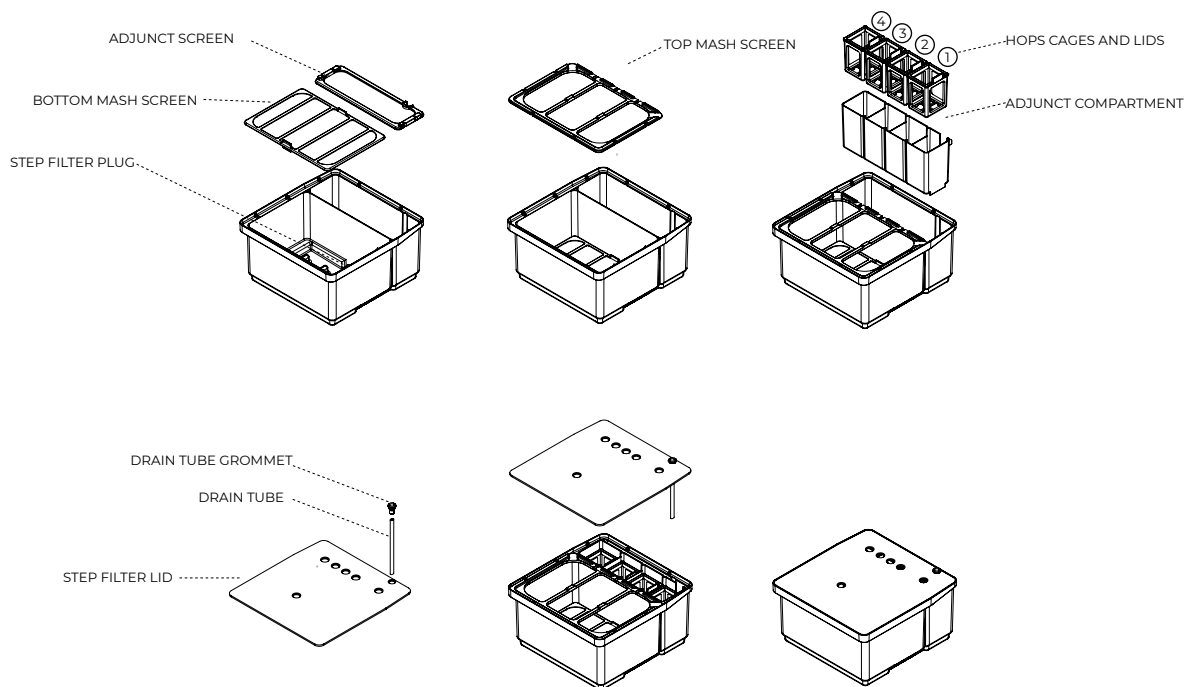
- Brew Keg (5 gallon)
- Metal Keg Lid

# ASSEMBLY

## Attaching Heating Module to Brewing Ingredients Module



## Assembling the Step Filter



# CONNECTING Z TO YOUR NETWORK

## **To connect to WiFi:**

1. Power on your Z. You will see the Z logo and then a network connection prompt.
2. Select 'WiFi' from the network connection options.
3. Select your WiFi network from the list of available networks. If you do not see your network listed, check to see if your wireless router is connected correctly.
4. Enter the password for your WiFi network and click 'OK'. Z will then connect to your network.

## **To connect to ethernet:**

1. Connect an ethernet cable to your router and connect the other end to the ethernet port on the back of your Z.
2. Power on your Z. You will see the Z logo and then a network connection prompt
3. Select 'Ethernet' from the network connection options.

## **To add your Z to your PicoBrew account:**

Once you have successfully connected Z to your home network, you will need to add the Z to your account on [picobrew.com](http://picobrew.com). Follow prompts on the Z screen in order to add your Z to your account.

# FIRST RINSE

Before you start your first brew, run a quick rinse cycle using an empty bucket, your keg, and the cleaning wand. You may notice the keg running empty, which can cause the flow from the nozzle to look erratic. This is normal—pulling air through the machine aids in removing buildup.

## Step Filter set-up:

1. Ensure that the Step Filter Plug is securely in place.
2. Place the Bottom Mash Screen into the mash compartment so that it rests on the bottom ledge of the Step Filter. This is the false bottom that the grain will sit on.
3. Place the Adjunct Screen on the other side of the Step Filter (the Adjunct Compartment), also resting on the bottom ledge.
4. Place the Top Mash Screen on the top ledge of the Step Filter.
5. Insert the Drain Tube and Drain Tube Grommet into the Step Filter Lid as shown in the 'Assembling the Step Filter' illustration above.
6. Place the Step Filter Lid on top of the Step Filter, ensuring that the holes are aligned correctly.
7. Slide Step Filter into Z. There should be a little resistance as the drain slides into place and the Step Filter presses against the back of the Z. Ensure that both the left and right sides of the Step Filter are pushed in completely.

## Rinse set-up:

1. Fill your keg with approximately 2 gallons of clean, hot tap water. Place the keg either on the floor or on the counter next to your Z.
2. Connect the BLACK Ball Lock to the keg post labeled OUT. Lift the outer ring of the Ball Lock, place it on the appropriate keg post, let go of the outer ring and press down firmly. The Ball Lock will click when it fits into place.
3. In the same manner, attach a Cleaning Tube to the GRAY Ball Lock. Allow the gray hose to sit in an empty bucket.
4. Power on your Z. From the main menu, select Utilities, then select Rinse by clicking the Control Knob. Follow the on-screen instructions.

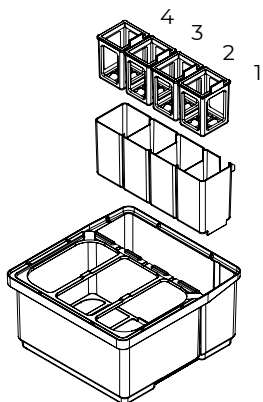
5. Once the rinse cycle completes, remove your Step Filter, dump out any remaining water, and clean Step Filter.
6. Remove, clean, and re-install in-line filter.
7. Disconnect the keg from the machine. To disconnect the Ball Locks, pull up on the outer ring of the Ball Lock, and pull the Ball Lock off of the keg post. Dump any remaining water out of the keg.



# LET'S BREW

Once your equipment is clean, it's time to get brewing! Follow the steps below to get started:

1. From the main menu of your Z, select Recipes, select the recipe you want to brew, and then follow the on-screen prompts to complete steps detailed below.
2. Ensure Step Filter Plug is installed.
3. Measure (and grind, if necessary) your grain. Place the Bottom Mash Screen into the mash compartment so that it rests on the bottom ledge of the Step Filter. Pour grain into the mash compartment on top of the Bottom Mash Screen.
4. Level the grain with your hand. Do not compact. Place the Top Mash Screen on the top ledge of the Step Filter so it rests above the grain. The notches on the screen should align with the center wall of the Step Filter.
5. Place the Adjunct Screen in the Adjunct Compartment of the Step Filter, resting on the bottom ledge. Ensure that the semi-circular cutout for the Drain Tube is placed on the same side of the Step Filter as the Drain Tube indentation.
6. Measure hops and place in appropriate Hop Cages. Secure the Hop Cage Lids. Secure with silicone bands if lids feel loose.
7. Place each cage into the Adjunct Compartment, on top of the Adjunct Screen, with the longest boiling hop going into the first compartment (the one with the notch).



Hop cages are ordered 1-4 from Right to Left

8. Place the Adjunct Compartment, with Hop Cages inserted, into the Hop section of the Step Filter (this is the smaller section at the back of the Step Filter). Make sure that the tabs on the outside of the Adjunct Compartment are facing toward the back of the Step Filter.
9. Insert the Drain Tube into the Drain Tube Grommet and then fit the assembled Drain Tube into the Drain Tube hole in the Step Filter Lid. Make sure that the Drain Tube is aligned with the Step Filter Drain.
10. Place the lid on the Step Filter, ensuring the holes are aligned correctly. Slide the Step Filter into the Z.
11. Fill your keg with the amount of water listed in your recipe. Use a gallon jug and measuring cup or a scale (8.33 lbs water = 1 gallon of water) to measure your water. Accurate water measurement is important to ensure the best results for your brew. Water measurement errors are one of the most common problems brewers encounter. If you use a scale to measure your water, don't forget to tare it to your container before adding water!
12. Insert the black Keg Seal, by inserting one end and firmly pressing around the edge of the seal until it has been pushed into place. Do not put too much pressure on the center of the seal as it may fall into your keg.
13. Place the Keg Cozy around your keg.
14. Assemble the Foam Trap. Place a few drops of Anti-foam onto the felt washer. Place the spindle on top of the felt washer (long side of spindle pointing down). Insert the assembled Foam Trap into the hole in the Keg Seal.
15. Connect the BLACK Ball Lock to the OUT keg post and the GRAY Ball Lock to the IN keg post of your filled keg.

While your Z brews, you can watch its progress online. Login to your PicoBrew account on [picobrew.com](http://picobrew.com), select the BrewHouse tab, then select the current recipe under the Z session list to view session data with current wort and heat loop temperatures.

# CARE AND MAINTENANCE

## Cleaning the Z

We recommend rinsing your Z after every brew (see Rinse instruction above). Water and rubbing alcohol are recommended for cleaning the outside of the Z. Do not use abrasive materials or cleaners. Do not use cleaners on the OLED screen.

## Cleaning the Step Filter, Cages, and Screens

The Step Filter, Adjunct Compartment, Mesh Screens, Hop Cages, Cage Lids, and Foam Trap (including spindle and fabric washer) are all dishwasher safe. Hot water soaks can be used in place of dishwashing. DO NOT use Pro Brewers Wash (PBW) on the Step Filter.

## Cleaning the Keg

Cleaning your keg is extremely important—a dirty keg can lead to contaminated batches.

1. Using a wrench, remove both keg posts and clean out any debris that is inside.
2. Remove the dip tube and use the dip tube brush to scrub the inside.
3. Use a scrub brush to loosen any hardened yeast or trub on the walls of the keg.

We highly recommend using Pro Brewers Wash to clean and Star San to sanitize your keg before the next brew. Consult the “How to clean your keg video” on the PicoBrew website for help here.

## Deep Clean

Every 3-4 brews, you will need to run a deep clean cycle on your Z. For the deep clean cycle, you will need a dishwasher tablet (one has been included in your kit).

**CAUTION:** The deep clean heats water to boiling temperature, do not use any unsafe cleaning agents.

1. Select Clean on the OLED display and click to begin.
2. Fill a keg with 1 gallon of water and attach hoses to keg.
3. Place the dishwasher tablet in the keg.

4. Place keg cozy on keg and insert a Keg Seal.
5. Load your Step Filter with the Bottom Mash Screen, Adjunct Screen and Top Mash Screen installed.
6. Place the lid on the Step Filter, ensuring that the Drain Tube and Drain Grommet are installed.
7. Slide the Step Filter into the Z.

After the Clean Cycle is complete, it is important to rinse with clean water. Run 5 gallons of water through your machine using the rinse cycle. Discard the rinse water.

## **Customer Care**

If you experience any problems with your Z Series brewing system, please contact [support@picobrew.com](mailto:support@picobrew.com) for assistance.