

SourFriend Smart Fermentation Device

User Manual

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Thank you for choosing SourFriend.

Please read this manual carefully
before use and operate
the product safely and as instructed.



FCC Compliance Information

Contains FCC ID: 2AC7Z-ESPS3WROOM1

Product	SourFriend Smart Fermenter
Weight	Approx. 3–4 kg (6.6–8.8 lbs)
Accuracy	±1°C (±1.8°F)
Dimensions	163 × 280 × 285 mm (6.4 × 11.0 × 11.2 in)
Rated Input	DC 12 V / 3.0 A
Power	36 W max
Connectivity	Bluetooth Low Energy
Capacity	890 ml (30 fl oz)
Material	Container: Tritan™ copolyester
Manufacturer	Toasterz Inc.

What you need to know before you start.

The first step to a safe start.
Learn how to set up your product correctly.

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Safety Precautions

Before You Start

Important safety information to prevent hazards during use.

People with reduced physical, sensory, or cognitive abilities, or with little experience, should use this product only under supervision.

Children under 8 must not use this product without adult supervision.

Failure to Follow Safety Instructions

- Failure to follow these instructions may cause fire, electric shock, or serious injury.
- The manufacturer is not liable for accidents resulting from failure to follow them.
- The manufacturer remains responsible for damage caused by product defects, as provided by applicable law.

Power and Cable

DANGER

- Never touch the cable, adapter, or unit with wet hands. If an electric shock occurs, disconnect power only if it is safe and call emergency services.
- Use the included adapter. For a replacement, use a compatible USB-C PD adapter rated 36 W or higher. Do not use damaged or incompatible power accessories.

Safety Precautions

Before You Start

- Adapter: Use the included adapter. For a replacement, use a compatible USB-C PD adapter rated 36 W or higher. Detailed ratings for the included adapter will be listed separately.
- Cable: Use the supplied USB-C to USB-C cable or an equivalent cable rated for the required power.
- Contaminants: Keep water, starter, dust, and metal particles out of the power port and connector.

Installation and Storage

WARNING

- Do not use on carpet, bedding, or towels — blocked vents can cause a fire. Always use on a hard, level surface.
 - Avoid direct sunlight, damp locations such as bathrooms, and hot or humid places. If the product is submerged, unplug the adapter immediately.
-
- Cable care: Prevent the cable from being pinched or crushed.
 - Disconnecting: Grip the connector, not the cord.
 - Clearance: Keep at least 10 cm (4 in) between the product and any wall.
 - Ventilation: Use and store the product in a cool, well-ventilated place.
 - Storage: Unplug the power cable before long-term storage.

Use and Care

DANGER — For users of pacemakers and implanted medical devices

- If you use a pacemaker or other active implanted medical device, keep this product at least 6 in from your body.
- Electromagnetic interference may cause the device to malfunction, which can be life-threatening. Consult the device maker or your doctor before use.

WARNING — Fermented food safety and disposal

- Fridge Mode slows fermentation but does not sterilize food or guarantee food safety. If the starter has mold, an unusual color, an off odor, or other signs of spoilage, do not taste it — discard it immediately. When in doubt, discard it.

WARNING — Malfunction and fire prevention

- Stop immediately: If you notice smoke, a burning smell, or unusual noise, unplug the cable and stop use. Let it cool, then contact support.
- Flammables: Never use near sprays, gas, other flammable materials, or open flame.

WARNING — Vent care and component protection

- Keep vents clear: Never operate with the bottom vents blocked. Trapped heat can cause a fire or permanently damage the Peltier module.
- Do not touch: Never put your hand into a vent during or immediately after operation.

CAUTION — Device care

- No modification: Do not open, repair, or modify the product. This may cause electric shock, fire, or damage. Warranty coverage may be denied only for damage caused by unauthorized repair or modification.
- Children and pets: Keep children and pets from mouthing or biting the product or cable.
- Impact: Avoid excessive vibration or impact during operation.
- Sensor care: The lid sensors are precision parts. Wipe them gently with a dry, lint-free cloth. Keep moisture, detergent, and sharp tools away.
- Do not move while running: Moving the unit may damage the fan or dislodge the container.
- Wireless: Follow local restrictions in hospitals, aircraft, and other controlled areas.
- Operating environment: For household use only. Operate at 5–35°C (41–95°F) and 30–70% relative humidity.

Safety Precautions

Before You Start

- Use the container: Never place food directly on the internal base (the cooling/heating plate). Always use the supplied or a suitable container.
- Heat: Do not put hot contents directly into the unit, or heat the product with an external appliance such as a microwave.
- Condensation: Temperature differences can form condensation inside the product. Wipe it dry with a soft cloth after use.
- Cleaning: Never spray alcohol, benzene, or other chemicals directly on the product. Blot the exterior gently with a dry microfiber cloth — do not scrub or press hard.

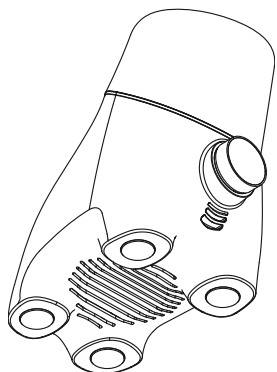
Parts and Components

Before You Start

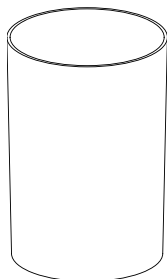
Before using the product, check the list below to confirm nothing is missing.

If an item is missing or defective, do not use the product — contact customer support, as use may cause malfunction or injury.

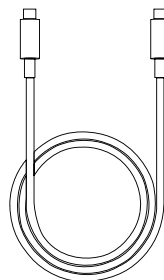
What's in the Box



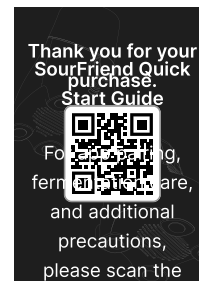
SourFriend Unit



Tritan Container



**USB-C Cable & Power
Adapter**



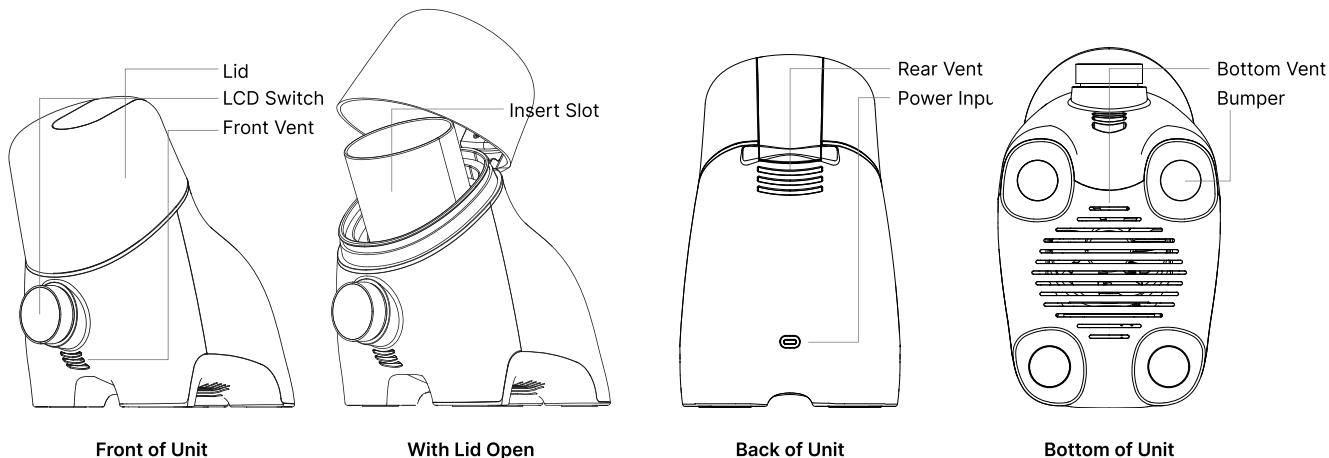
Quick User Manual

Parts and Components

Before You Start

The main parts of this product are named as follows, for correct and safe operation.
Check the location and name of each part so the instructions in this manual are easy to follow.

Part Names

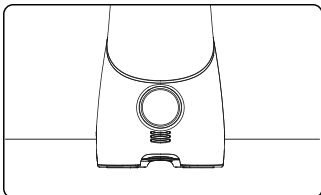


Installation and Setup

Before You Start

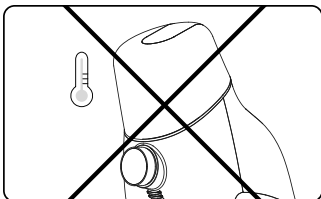
Damage caused by operating the product without following these installation guidelines may not be covered by service.

Where to Install

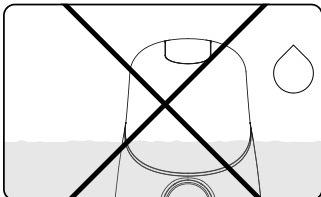


Place the product on a flat, clean surface.

If there is no clearance between the bottom vents and the surface, the product may fail.



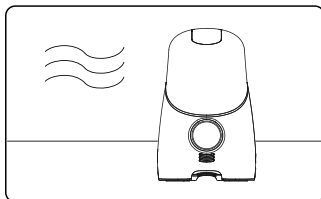
Avoid extremely hot or cold locations so the cooling and heating functions work correctly.



Avoid places with very low or very high humidity.

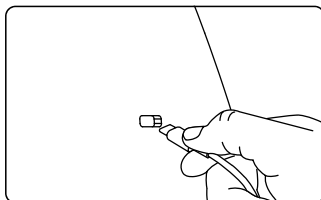
This can cause electric shock or damage to the electronics.

Installation and Setup

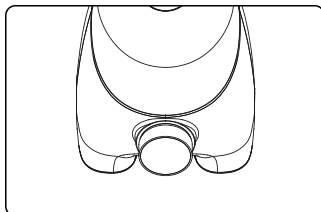


For heat dissipation, use the product indoors in a well-ventilated area.

How to Set Up



Connect the supplied cable and power adapter to the port on the back of the unit.



When power is connected, the rotary switch LCD lights up — there is no separate power button. Disconnecting the cable stops the unit.

* If the unit does not receive enough power, it may switch off or reset unexpectedly during operation.

Key features you need to know.

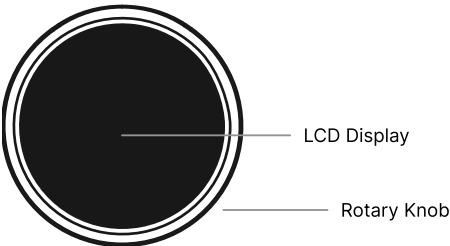
Smart ways to get the most out of it.

Learn the modes and how to operate them correctly.

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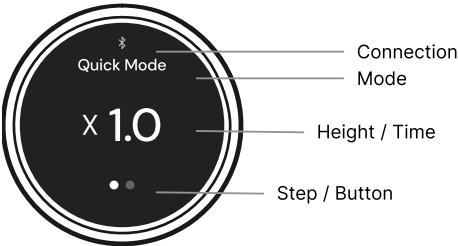
Using the Switch

Rotary Switch Controls



Turn	Turn the dial left or right to change a setting or switch screens.
Click	Press briefly to confirm a selection or start a mode.
Press and Hold	Hold for 2–3 seconds to stop the mode currently running.

LCD Layout

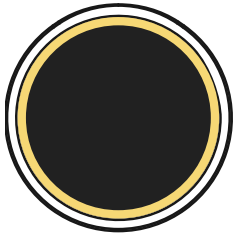


Top	Shows the running mode and the device–app connection status.
Center	Shows key progress information such as height and time.
Bottom	Shows buttons for switching screens and selecting options.

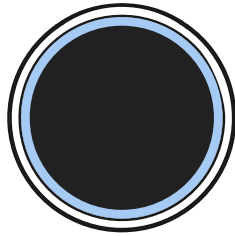
Using the Switch

Key Features

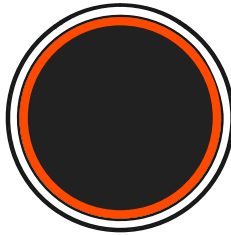
LCD Colors by Stage



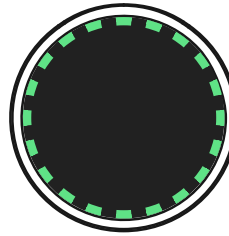
Heating



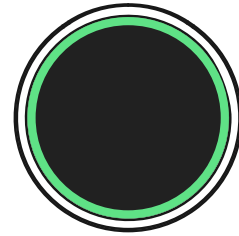
Cooling



Error Screen

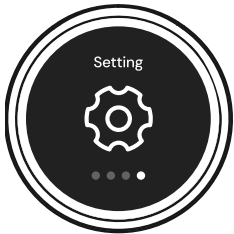


100% Height Reached



Peak Reached

Settings Screen



Settings



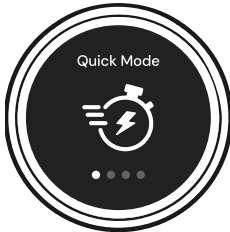
Menu



On/Off Setting

Using the Switch

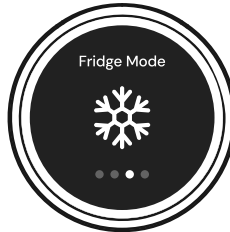
Mode Start Screens



Quick Mode

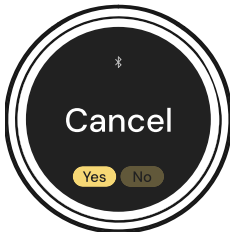


Delayed Mode



Fridge Mode

Mode Exit Screens (Press and Hold)



Before Exiting



After Exiting

Powering SourFriend

For stable operation, a USB-C PD adapter capable of delivering at least 36 W is recommended. Use the included adapter when provided.

Not recommended	Phone chargers and power banks below 36 W.
Recommended	USB-C PD, 36 W or higher, with a rated cable.

* Use the included adapter when provided. Final adapter ratings will be listed separately.

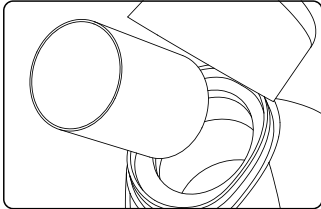
Get the most from SourFriend — install the app

The app tracks fermentation progress and shows an estimated completion time based on your fermentation history.

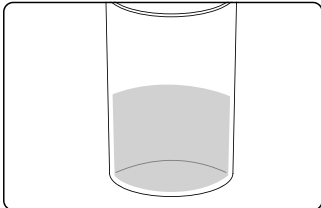
1. Install the app on your smartphone.
2. With the unit plugged in, follow the app's instructions to pair over Bluetooth.
3. The connection drops automatically beyond a certain distance; when you reconnect, records stored on the unit are synced to the app.

Using the Product

Feeding the Starter and Getting Started

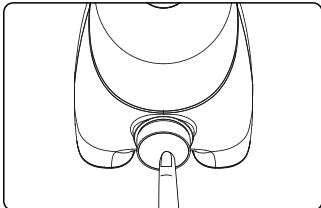


Open the clear lid on top and lift the Tritan container out of the unit.
Remove the container while the product is idle, before starting operation.



Add starter, water, and flour to the container, mix well, and fill within the recommended volume.

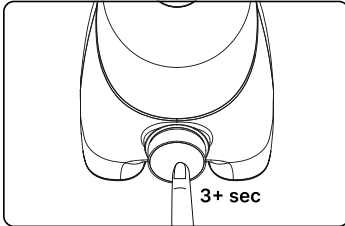
Minimum	150 ml (5 fl oz) or more — required for correct sensor operation
Maximum	300 ml (10 fl oz) — more than this risks overflow



Place the container in the unit and close the lid, then turn the switch to select a mode.
Press the button to start.

Using the Product

Key Features



When fermentation is complete, or if you want to cancel it, hold the switch for more than 3 seconds and follow the Cancel or Complete prompt to end operation.

Product Notes

- Disconnecting the cable stops the unit. Reconnect within 3 minutes and it resumes where it left off.
- The unit will not operate correctly if the lid is left open.
- The unit will not operate correctly if the container is not fitted.
- The unit must be powered on for Bluetooth discovery to work.
- On first use, or when an update is announced, follow the app's instructions to update to the latest firmware.

Using Quick Mode

Key Features

Quick Mode is a rapid fermentation mode for when you want to bake today, or want your sourdough starter to reach peak as fast as possible after a refresh (feeding).

It holds the optimal temperature so the microbes in your starter stay as active as possible. In that warm environment, the starter rises quickly at its own natural pace.

Quick Mode Notes

- **How it works:** Temperature rises quickly to activate the starter strongly. Time to peak still varies with the condition of your starter.
- **Monitor it:** While running, watch the live fermentation height on the LCD or in the app so you do not miss the ideal peak.

Refrigerated starter	Dormant microbes may need extra time to wake up and become active.
Room-temperature starter	May rise much faster than expected and move into over-fermentation.



Using Quick Mode

Quick Mode Process

Starting the mode

Turn to Quick Mode on the switch and press the button. The screen changes immediately and operation begins.

First screen

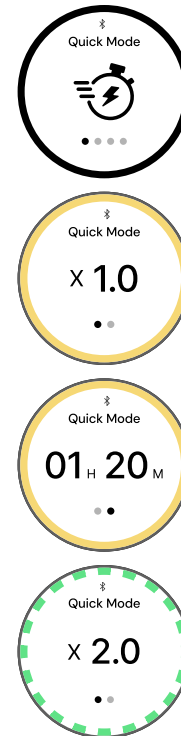
Shows the height of your starter. It begins at 1.0× and is displayed as a multiple.

Second screen

Shows the actual elapsed time. The timer counts up from 00:00.

2× height screen

When the starter has more than doubled in height, the LCD shows a green dotted ring.



Using Quick Mode

Key Features

Peak Zone screen

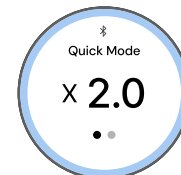
During the peak window — when the starter is ready to use or feed — the dotted ring becomes solid. Use that timing to keep your starter healthy.

[Switch to storage] First screen

Once peak has passed and the starter begins to fall, the unit switches to refrigerated storage mode unless you end the running mode.

[Switch to storage] Second screen

Shows the elapsed time since storage began; the timer counts up from 00:00 again. The time it took to reach peak is shown below.



Using Delayed Mode

Delayed Mode is a scheduled fermentation mode that brings your sourdough starter to peak at the time you choose.

Rather than simply fermenting for a fixed period, it refers to your starter's active fermentation time and peak pattern to predict how long is left, then paces fermentation to finish when you want. For example, if you plan to start mixing dough in 12 hours, you can have the starter reach peak about 12 hours from now.

Delayed Mode Notes

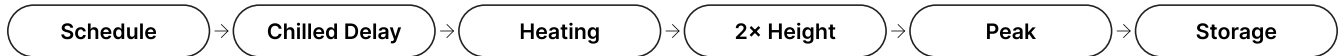
- **First use:** With no fermentation data yet, timing is predicted from default values. The more you use the product, the more it learns your pattern and the more precise scheduling becomes.
- **If timing is off:** Skipping a feeding or long storage changes starter activity and fermentation speed, so peak may come earlier or later than predicted.

First use	Run Quick Mode or Delayed Mode at least once so the system can learn your starter's pattern.
If conditions change	If your feeding ratio or routine changes sharply, predictions may be less accurate.

Using Delayed Mode

Key Features

- **Keep a consistent routine:** For the most accurate prediction, keep your feeding ratio and fermentation routine as consistent as possible.
- **Adapting to a new pattern:** If your feeding ratio or environment changes significantly, run Quick Mode or Delayed Mode once more so the unit can relearn your pattern.
- **Schedules under 7 hours:** For relatively short schedules of 7 hours or less, we recommend Quick Mode rather than Delayed Mode.



Using Delayed Mode

Key Features

Delayed Mode Process

Starting the mode

Turn to Delayed Mode on the switch and press the button.

Setting the schedule

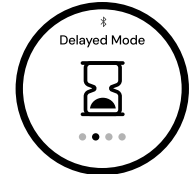
Set your target finish time on the LCD. Hours and minutes are adjustable
— turn and press the switch to change the setting.

First screen

Shows the time left until fermentation finishes. The timer counts down from the time you set.

Second screen

Shows the height of your starter. It begins at 1.0× and is displayed as a multiple.



Using Delayed Mode

Key Features

2× height screen

When the starter has more than doubled in height, the LCD shows a solid green ring. Use that timing to keep your starter healthy.

[Switch to storage] First screen

When the scheduled time ends and peak has passed, the unit switches automatically to safe refrigerated storage. It shows the elapsed time since storage began, counting up from 00:00.

[Switch to storage] Second screen

Shows the height of your starter after the switch to storage mode.



Using Fridge Mode

Key Features

Fridge Mode cools the starter to slow fermentation during short-term storage between feedings.

It is useful when you are not baking every day. Cooling slows microbial activity, but it does not sterilize the starter or guarantee food safety. Results vary with ingredients, hygiene, and storage conditions.

Fridge Mode Notes

- **Refresh after storage:** Fridge Mode keeps the starter dormant. After a long storage period, you must refresh (feed) the starter to wake it up before baking with it again.
- **Restoring activity:** The longer the storage, the longer microbes take to wake. Check the starter's condition and feed it at least once or twice to fully restore activity before baking.

⚠ Please follow this when using Fridge Mode

For starter care and product performance, feed the starter within 14 days. This is a care recommendation, not a guarantee of food safety. Inspect the starter before use and discard it if you see mold, unusual color, an off odor, or other signs of spoilage.

Using Fridge Mode

Key Features

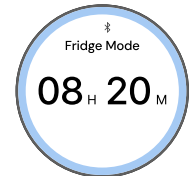
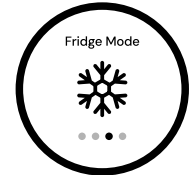
Fridge Mode Process

Starting the mode

Turn to Fridge Mode on the switch and press the button.

Screen

Shows the actual elapsed time since Fridge Mode started. The timer counts up from 00:00.



Error Messages

Error codes that may appear on the unit's LCD, and what to do about them.
The code for the problem appears in the lower area of the LCD.

Follow the steps below; if the same code keeps appearing, contact Toasterz customer support.



When you need to power cycle the unit

001	Display problem. Disconnect the power, then reconnect it.
002	Device memory problem. Disconnect the power, then reconnect it.
003	Temperature reading problem. Disconnect the power, then reconnect it.
004	Height sensor problem. Wipe the sensor inside the lid gently with a dry cloth, then reconnect the power.
005	Temperature control problem. Disconnect the power, then reconnect it.
006	Clock problem. Disconnect the power, then reconnect it.
010	Internal device error. Disconnect the power, then reconnect it.

Error Messages

Key Features

When only some functions are limited

008	Fermentation data is not being recorded. Fermentation itself continues to work normally.
009	Cannot connect to the app. You can still use the product from the unit's LCD.

When fermentation or storage stops (routine ends automatically)

011	Not enough power. Check that you are using a rated adapter and cable (DC 12V / 3A), and plug the unit directly into a wall outlet rather than a power strip.
012	Not cooling properly. Check that the vents are clear and the unit is at least 10cm (4 in) from any wall.
013	Not heating properly. Check ventilation and clearance around the unit.
014	Cannot measure height. Wipe the sensor inside the lid with a dry cloth.
015	Too much in the container. Reduce to 300 ml (10 fl oz) or less and start again.
016	Too little in the container. Add at least 150 ml (5 fl oz) and start again.

Error Messages

Key Features

Screens that are not error numbers

Running with the lid open

The Open screen may appear when the lid is open. Close the lid.



During a firmware update

An Update screen with a progress percentage may appear during a firmware update. This is unrelated to the error codes above.



Care and maintenance after use.

The secret to keeping it like new.
Learn how to clean and store it safely.

Cleaning and Storage **33**

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Cleaning and Storage

Care After Use

⚠ Please check these first

- Disconnect the power: Always unplug the cable from the unit before cleaning or inspecting it.
- Regular cleaning: Clean the product regularly to keep it hygienic.

Cleaning and storing the unit

1. Wipe the inside and outside of the unit with a soft, dry cloth. (Water entering the power port or the base will cause failure.)
2. Wash the container with a mild detergent, and dry it before fitting it back into the unit.
3. Once completely dry, store it in its box in a place free of moisture.

Cleaning precautions

- Never wash with water: Do not submerge the unit or rinse it under running water, and keep water out of the bottom vents and the power port.
- Condensation: Because of how the Peltier module works, condensation can form on the lid and inner container. Always dry the interior completely with a dry cloth after use to prevent mold and corrosion.
- No chemicals or abrasives: Do not use volatile substances (alcohol, benzene, thinner) or abrasive scourers — they can damage or discolor the surface.
- Dried residue: Soak dried fermentation residue in lukewarm water, then wipe with a soft sponge. Metal scourers will damage the Tritan container.
- Clean right after use: To prevent bacteria and mold, clean the inside of the container and the lid rim immediately after use.

Storage precautions

- Dry before storing: After cleaning, leave the lid open and let the unit air-dry completely in a shaded, well-ventilated place. Do not run the unit empty solely for drying.
- Long-term storage: If it will not be used for a month or more, disconnect the cable and store it in its box or cover it to keep dust out.
- Where to store: Do not leave it in a hot or humid place, in a vehicle, or in direct sunlight.
- Before using again: Make sure the unit, container, and power port are completely dry before reconnecting power.
- Disposal: This product contains electronic components (Peltier module, PCB). Do not discard it with household waste — take it to an electronics recycling facility in accordance with local regulations.

Frequently Asked Questions

Care After Use

If the product is not working properly, review the checks below before requesting service.

A quick check may solve the problem. If the issue remains, contact Toasterz at our support email address.

Troubleshooting Checklist

It won't heat or cool.	• Make sure the power cable is securely connected to the unit. • Make sure the adapter is plugged into the outlet. • Check that the front LCD button is lit. • Make sure the dedicated container is properly installed. • Make sure the starter volume in the container is at least 150 ml.
No height reading.	• Make sure the Tritan container was not inserted with its lid on. The sensor at the top of the unit measures the starter's height, so the inner container must remain uncovered during fermentation. • Make sure the starter volume in the container is at least 150 ml.
The LCD stays off after power-up.	• Use the included adapter. For a replacement, use a compatible USB-C PD adapter rated 36 W or higher. Reconnect the cable. If the display stays off, contact support.

Frequently Asked Questions

Care After Use

The starter has dried out.	• Keep the operating environment at 30% humidity or higher. • Avoid opening the lid often to help maintain humidity inside the product.
The product is too noisy.	• Place it on a level surface: Noise may increase if the unit is tilted. Place it on a flat, stable surface. • Clear nearby objects: Remove anything around the product that may block operation or ventilation. • Check under the unit: Remove towels or debris from under the product. They may cause sensor errors or overheating.
Water got inside the unit.	• If it is safe to do so, unplug the adapter from the wall outlet and disconnect the cable from the unit. Do not reconnect power or operate the unit. Contact support@toasterz.team for service instructions.

FCC Compliance Information

FCC Part 15 Statement

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules.

Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

1. This device may not cause harmful interference.
2. This device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by Toasterz Inc. could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

Product	SourFriend Smart Fermentation Controller
Model	SourFriend
Manufacturer	Toasterz Inc.
Contains FCC ID	2AC7Z-ESPS3WROOM1

FCC Compliance Information

Class B Digital Device

Interference Notice

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules.

These limits provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation.

This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio-frequency energy. If it is not installed and used as instructed, it may cause harmful interference to radio communications. There is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation.

If Interference Occurs

If this equipment causes harmful interference to radio or television reception, turn it off and on to confirm the cause. Then try one or more of these steps:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the distance between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment to an outlet on a different circuit.
- Ask the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.
- RF exposure: Install and operate the product with at least 20 cm (8 in) between the antenna and any person.

SourFriend Limited Warranty

Coverage, Duration, and Registration

Who and What This Warranty Covers

Toasterz Inc. warrants SourFriend hardware against defects in materials and workmanship under normal household use.

- Covered customer: The original end-user purchaser or the person who received the new product as a gift. Proof of the order and delivery date may be required.
- Covered product: The SourFriend device and Toasterz-branded accessories included in the original package. Food, starter, consumables, and third-party adapters, cables, or accessories are not covered.

Warranty Period

- The standard Limited Warranty lasts two years from the original delivery date.
- Register the product within 30 days after delivery to receive two additional years, for a total of four years. Registration extends only the warranty period. It does not reduce any rights provided by law.

SourFriend Limited Warranty

Service, Costs, and Exclusions

What Toasterz Will Do

- For a covered defect, Toasterz may repair the product, replace it with the same or a functionally equivalent product, or refund the original purchase price if repair or replacement is not reasonable.
- Toasterz pays reasonable diagnosis, parts, labor, and standard shipping costs for covered service when the customer follows the service and packing instructions.

Repair • Replacement • Refund

What Is Not Covered

- This warranty does not cover damage caused by accident, misuse, liquid, blocked ventilation, improper storage, external causes, wear, cosmetic change, use outside the instructions, or incompatible power accessories. A USB-C PD adapter rated 36 W or higher is recommended.
- Damage caused by unauthorized repair or modification is not covered. Third-party service alone does not cancel the warranty.
- For expired or noncovered service, the customer pays approved costs. Toasterz provides an estimate before paid work begins.

SourFriend Limited Warranty

Service, Packaging, and Legal Rights

- Before sending the product, contact **support@toasterz.team** and follow the service instructions. Include proof of the order and delivery date if requested. Do not send food or starter with the device.

Shipping	Keep the original box and inserts for safe international shipping. If unavailable, contact Toasterz for approved packing. The box is not a warranty condition. Damage caused by inadequate packing is not covered; unrelated manufacturing defects remain covered.
State Rights	This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from State to State.



Warrantor: Toasterz Inc.
16 W. 32nd Street, Ste 503 New York, NY 10001, USA
Support: **support@toasterz.team**

Non-defect returns follow the campaign or store return policy that applied when the order was placed.

SourFriend

**Build your
fermentation
confidence,
a little more every day.**

Customer Support
support@toasterz.team

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