

Portable Espresso Press Brew Guide

For the YRP manual press and any AeroPress-style brewer — the starting recipe, the fixes, and the travel routine.

The honest starting point

A manual press does not make café-style 9-bar espresso. It makes a smooth, concentrated, espresso-style coffee that drinks beautifully on its own, over ice, or with milk. This guide helps you get the best cup the press can give — consistently, anywhere.

The golden starting recipe

Coffee	17 g (about 2 level tablespoons), medium-fine grind — like table salt
Water	220 g (about 1 cup) at 85–90°C / 185–195°F — just off the boil, rested 1 minute
Ratio	About 1:13 coffee to water for a strong cup; 1:15 for a milder one
Total time	About 2 minutes from pour to press

Five steps, every time

- **Rinse the filter.** A quick rinse warms the chamber and washes away any paper taste.
- **Add the coffee.** 17 g, then shake the press gently to level the bed.
- **Pour and stir.** Add all 220 g of water and stir for 10 seconds so no dry clumps survive.
- **Steep 90 seconds.** Put the plunger in just at the top to hold the heat in.
- **Press slowly.** Lean your body weight in, arms relaxed — about 30 seconds of steady pressure. Stop at the gentle hiss.

Dial it in: taste, then change ONE thing

If it tastes...	Try this next cup
Sour or sharp	Grind finer, use hotter water, or steep 30 seconds longer
Bitter or harsh	Grind coarser, cool the water a little, or press sooner
Weak or watery	Add 2 g more coffee, or use 20 g less water
Gritty	Grind slightly coarser and press more gently at the end

Travel and care routine

- Pack the press, filters and a small hand grinder together — the whole kit fits in a wash bag.
- At a hotel, use the in-room kettle and let the water rest a full minute; boiling water scorches the coffee.
- After brewing, push the puck of grounds out, rinse all parts with plain water, and dry the seal fully.
- Skip soap on the rubber seal — it dries the rubber out. A weekly wipe is plenty.
- Store the plunger pushed all the way in, so the seal is not stored compressed.