

Solar Drip Irrigation Setup & Troubleshooting Quick Guide

The companion guide to the ZoxDeal honest review:
set it up right the first time, program the timer with confidence,
and fix the most common problems in minutes.

A free bonus from **ZoxDeal** (zoxdeal.com) for readers of the Solar Drip Irrigation Kit review. This guide is original ZoxDeal content, written from the product's published specifications and verified buyer feedback. It is not affiliated with the manufacturer.

1. What's in the Box — Checklist

- Solar panel (6V 2W) with ground stake
- Control panel with built-in pump and 1800mAh battery
- 15 m water pipe (3 mm inner / 5 mm outer)
- 15 × T-fittings
- 15 × drip emitters
- Water pump intake filter
- Anti-siphon device
- Water-level sensor
- Screws × 4
- User manual

Note: Count the T-fittings and emitters before you start. Two buyers reported short counts — if yours is short, message the seller right away while the 90-day free-returns window is fresh.

2. Setup in 7 Steps (about 30 minutes)

Step 1. Pick the reservoir. Any bucket, tub, or rain barrel works. For a 1-week vacation with 10–15 plants, use at least a 20-liter (5-gallon) bucket; for 2–3 weeks, go bigger.

Step 2. Stake the solar panel in full sun. The panel and the timer are separate — put the panel where it gets the most direct sun, even if your pots sit in partial shade.

Step 3. Drop the pump in the reservoir. Attach the intake filter to the pump first; it keeps debris out of the lines. The pump must stay fully submerged while running.

Step 4. Run the tubing. Lay the 15 m pipe along your pots, cutting to length. Push the T-fittings firmly onto the 3 mm tube — if a joint feels loose, warm the tube end in hot water for 10 seconds first.

Step 5. Fit the drip emitters. One emitter per pot, pushed into the soil near the plant's root zone — not against the stem.

Step 6. Install the anti-siphon and water-level sensor. The anti-siphon stops uncontrolled flow when the pump is off; clip the sensor to the inside of the reservoir.

Step 7. Power on and test. Press ON/OFF, pick a timer mode (below), and run one manual cycle while you watch every emitter drip.

3. Programming the Timer — the 12 Modes

Two buttons do everything: **ON/OFF** powers the unit, **MODE** cycles the programs, and the LEDs show the active setting. Pick one frequency and one duration:

Frequency	Every 12 h	Every 24 h	Every 48 h	Every 72 h
Best for	Seedlings, hot climates	Most potted plants	Established plants	Succulents, cool weather

Pair the frequency with a watering **duration in minutes** (set with the same MODE button). Start conservative — one reviewer notes the minimum dispensing volume is about 2 liters, which can overwater tiny succulents. Check soil moisture after the first two cycles and adjust.

4. Placement Tips That Prevent 90% of Problems

- **Panel in sun, box in shade.** The split design exists for a reason — a shaded panel is the #1 cause of weak performance.
- **Keep the reservoir above the pump, below the emitters** where possible; the anti-siphon handles the rest.
- **One emitter per pot** near the root zone. For thirsty tomatoes in heat, use two emitters on one plant and drop a plant elsewhere.
- **Size the reservoir for your trip:** 15 plants × ~0.5 L/day × 14 days ≈ 100 L for a full two-week vacation. When in doubt, go bigger.

5. Troubleshooting — Fix It in Minutes

Pump runs but no water comes out

Check the reservoir level first, then the intake filter — a clogged filter is the most common cause. Rinse it, re-submerge the pump fully, and re-run.

One dripper barely drips (or not at all)

Pull the emitter and flush the line. Soak the emitter in vinegar water for 15 minutes to dissolve mineral buildup, then re-fit. This matches the most common buyer complaint.

Unit stopped working after days/weeks

A small number of buyers report early failure. First: recharge via strong sun for a full day and test. If it stays dead, use the free 90-day returns immediately — do not wait.

Battery seems to die overnight

The 1800mAh battery covers night cycles when fully charged. If it fades, the panel is likely shaded — relocate it to full sun for a day and re-test.

Water-level alarm keeps sounding

The sensor may be touching the reservoir wall or sitting in sediment. Rinse it, re-clip it mid-wall, and refill above the minimum line.

Not enough fittings for my layout

Two buyers hit this. Standard 3 mm barbed T-fittings and drip stakes from any garden store fit the 3 mm tube — a few dollars solves it.

6. Seasonal Care & Winter Storage

- **Before first frost:** drain the pump, lines, and emitters completely — trapped water cracks fittings when it freezes.
- **Store the panel and control box indoors**, dry, with the battery at roughly half charge.
- **Spring restart:** flush the lines, soak emitters in vinegar water, and run a full test cycle a week before you actually need it.

Note: October buyers: installing now is perfect timing. You get the system tested and tuned before spring, when watering demand — and search interest — peaks.

7. Quick-Reference Specs

Power	6V 2W solar panel (5.5 × 5.1 in) + 1800mAh battery
Timer	12 modes: 12/24/48/72 h × duration (min)
Capacity	Up to 15 plants, 15 m hose
Tube	3 mm inner / 5 mm outer
In the box	Panel, control unit, stake, 15 m pipe, 15 T-fittings, 15 emitters, filter, anti-siphon, sensor, screws, manual
Shipping	Free; fastest 6 days (78.6% ≤ 10 days)
Returns	Free within 90 days