



# Quick Start Guide

Get your grow tent automation system up and running in minutes!

## Prerequisites

- Raspberry Pi 4 (connected to your network)
- MicroSD card with Raspberry Pi OS installed
- SSH or physical access to the Pi

## Installation (One Command)

```
git clone <your-repo-url> grow_tent_automation
cd grow_tent_automation
./install.sh
```

The installation script will:

1. Install system dependencies
2. Create Python virtual environment
3. Install Python packages
4. Set up configuration files
5. Create data directories
6. Test the installation
7. Optionally install systemd service

## Quick Configuration

### 1. Get Telegram Bot Token

1. Open Telegram, search for [@BotFather](https://t.me/botfather) (<https://t.me/botfather>)
2. Send `/newbot` and follow instructions
3. Copy the bot token

### 2. Get Your Telegram Chat ID

1. Send a message to your bot
2. Visit: [https://api.telegram.org/bot<YOUR\\_TOKEN>/getUpdates](https://api.telegram.org/bot<YOUR_TOKEN>/getUpdates)
3. Find your `chat.id` in the JSON response

### 3. Configure Environment

```
nano .env
```

Update these values:

```
TELEGRAM_BOT_TOKEN=your_bot_token_here
TELEGRAM_CHAT_ID=your_chat_id_here
```

## Running the System

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### Option 1: Manual Run

```
./run.sh
```

### Option 2: As a Service (Auto-start on boot)

```
sudo systemctl start grow-tent
sudo systemctl enable grow-tent # Start on boot
```

## Access the Web Interface

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Open your browser and navigate to:

```
http://<raspberry-pi-ip>:8000
```

Find your Pi's IP:

```
hostname -I
```

## Test Hardware

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Before connecting real devices, test in simulation mode:

```
./test_hardware.py
```

This will verify:

- GPIO/Relay control
- BME680 sensor reading
- Camera functionality

## First Steps in the Web Interface

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### 1. Create a Project

- Navigate to “Projects” page
- Click “New Project”
- Name your grow (e.g., “Tomatoes 2024”)

### 2. Configure Devices

- Go to “Settings” page
- Adjust schedules for each device
- Set temperature/humidity thresholds

### 3. Monitor Dashboard

- Real-time sensor data
- Device controls
- Live camera feed

#### 4. Start Time-lapse (Optional)

- Go to “Time-lapse” page
- Set interval (e.g., 300 seconds = 5 minutes)
- Click “Start Capture”

## Telegram Bot Commands

Send these commands to your bot:

- `/status` - Current readings and device states
- `/devices` - List all devices
- `/on lights` - Turn lights on
- `/off pump` - Turn pump off
- `/photo` - Get snapshot
- `/alerts` - View alert settings

## Common Issues

### Can't access web interface

```
# Check if service is running
sudo systemctl status grow-tent

# Check Pi's IP
hostname -I

# Allow port in firewall
sudo ufw allow 8000/tcp
```

### Sensor not detected

```
# Enable I2C
sudo raspi-config
# Interface Options → I2C → Enable

# Check I2C devices
sudo i2cdetect -y 1
```

### Camera not working

```
# Enable camera
sudo raspi-config
# Interface Options → Camera → Enable

# Test camera
libcamera-still -o test.jpg
```

## File Structure

```
grow_tent_automation/
├── install.sh          # Installation script
├── run.sh               # Quick run script
├── test_hardware.py    # Hardware testing
├── requirements.txt     # Python dependencies
├── .env                 # Your configuration
├── README.md            # Full documentation
├── backend/              # Python backend
├── frontend/             # Web interface
├── data/                # Database and photos
└── logs/                # Application logs
```

## Service Management

```
# Start
sudo systemctl start grow-tent

# Stop
sudo systemctl stop grow-tent

# Restart
sudo systemctl restart grow-tent

# View logs
sudo journalctl -u grow-tent -f

# Check status
sudo systemctl status grow-tent
```

## Default Device Settings

- **Lights:** On 06:00-22:00 (16 hours)
- **Exhaust Fan:** 15 min/hour + auto (temp > 28°C or humidity > 75%)
- **Circulatory Fans:** Always on
- **Humidifier:** Auto (humidity < 50%)
- **Dehumidifier:** Auto (humidity > 70%)
- **Heater:** Auto (temp < 18°C)
- **Pump:** 5 min at 08:00 and 20:00

All settings can be customized in the web interface!

## Need Help?

1. Check full documentation: `README.md`
2. View logs: `tail -f logs/grow_tent.log`
3. Test hardware: `./test_hardware.py`
4. Check service status: `sudo systemctl status grow-tent`

## Safety Note

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### **⚠ Important:**

- Start with LOW power devices for testing
- Verify relay wiring before connecting high-power equipment
- Use proper electrical safety equipment
- Consider using safety relays and circuit breakers
- Never leave high-power devices unattended during initial testing

## Next Steps

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Once everything is working:

1.  Fine-tune device schedules in Settings
2.  Configure alert thresholds
3.  Start documenting in Grow Diary
4.  Set up time-lapse for your grow
5.  Use plant health analysis to monitor progress

Happy growing! 

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**Note:** The web interface runs on the Raspberry Pi. Access it from any device on your network using the Pi's IP address.