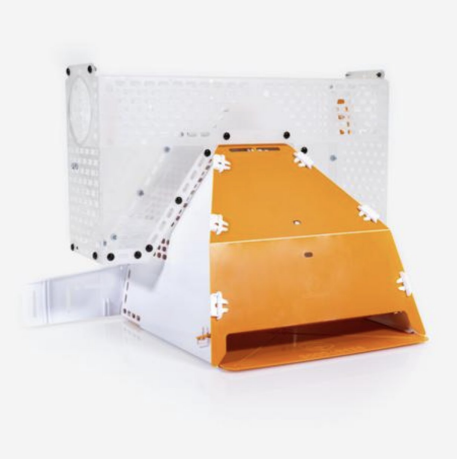
GOOD4BEES

GOOD4BEES BEEHIVE PROTECTION DEVICE

ASSEMBLY & USER MANUAL

Compatible with Nicot 6 and 10 • Dadant 6 • Dadant 10 • Dadant 12

Capture box + Beehive protection device · 32 steps



Watch the assembly video guide here!

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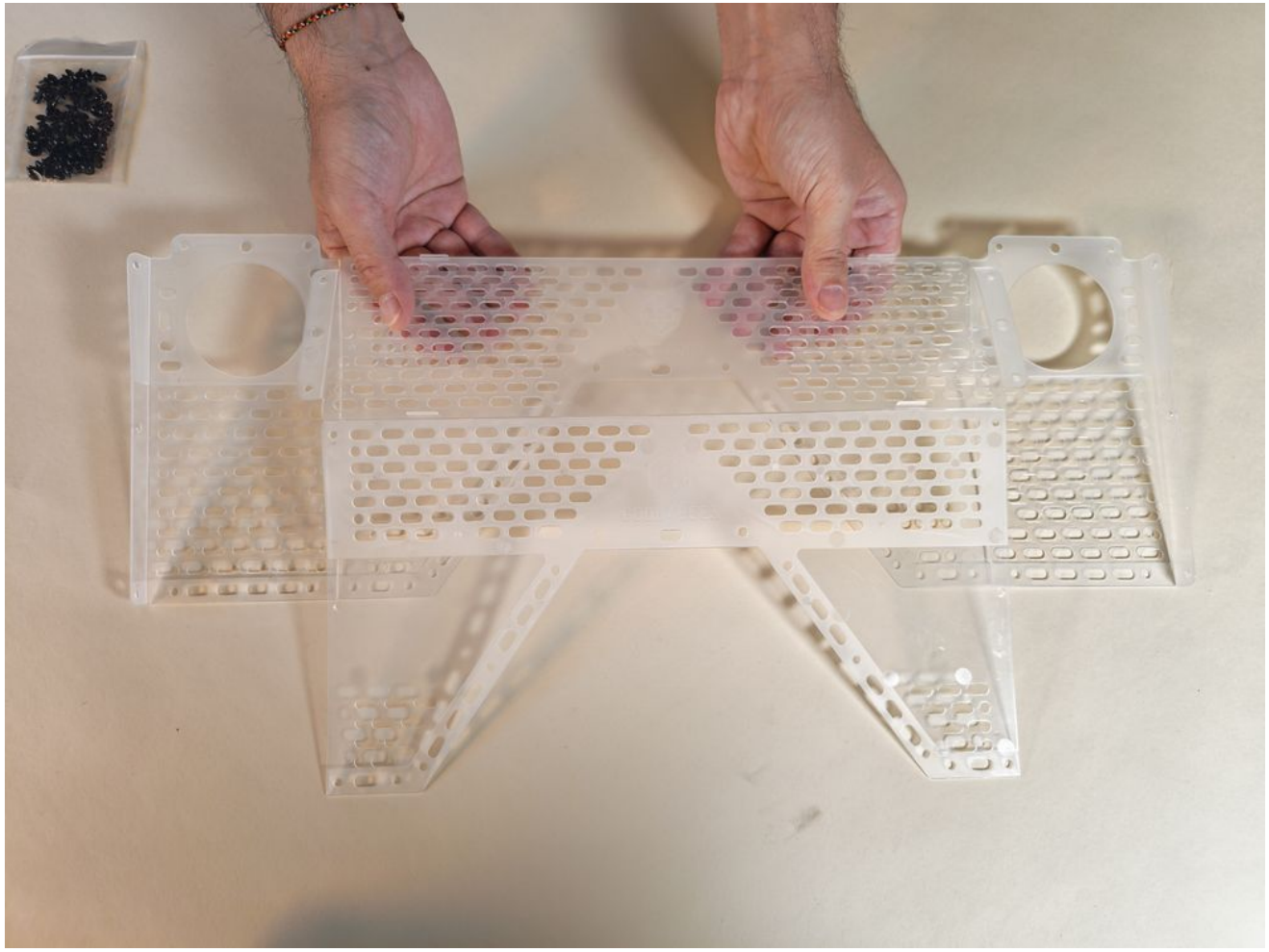
PART 1

CAPTURE BOX

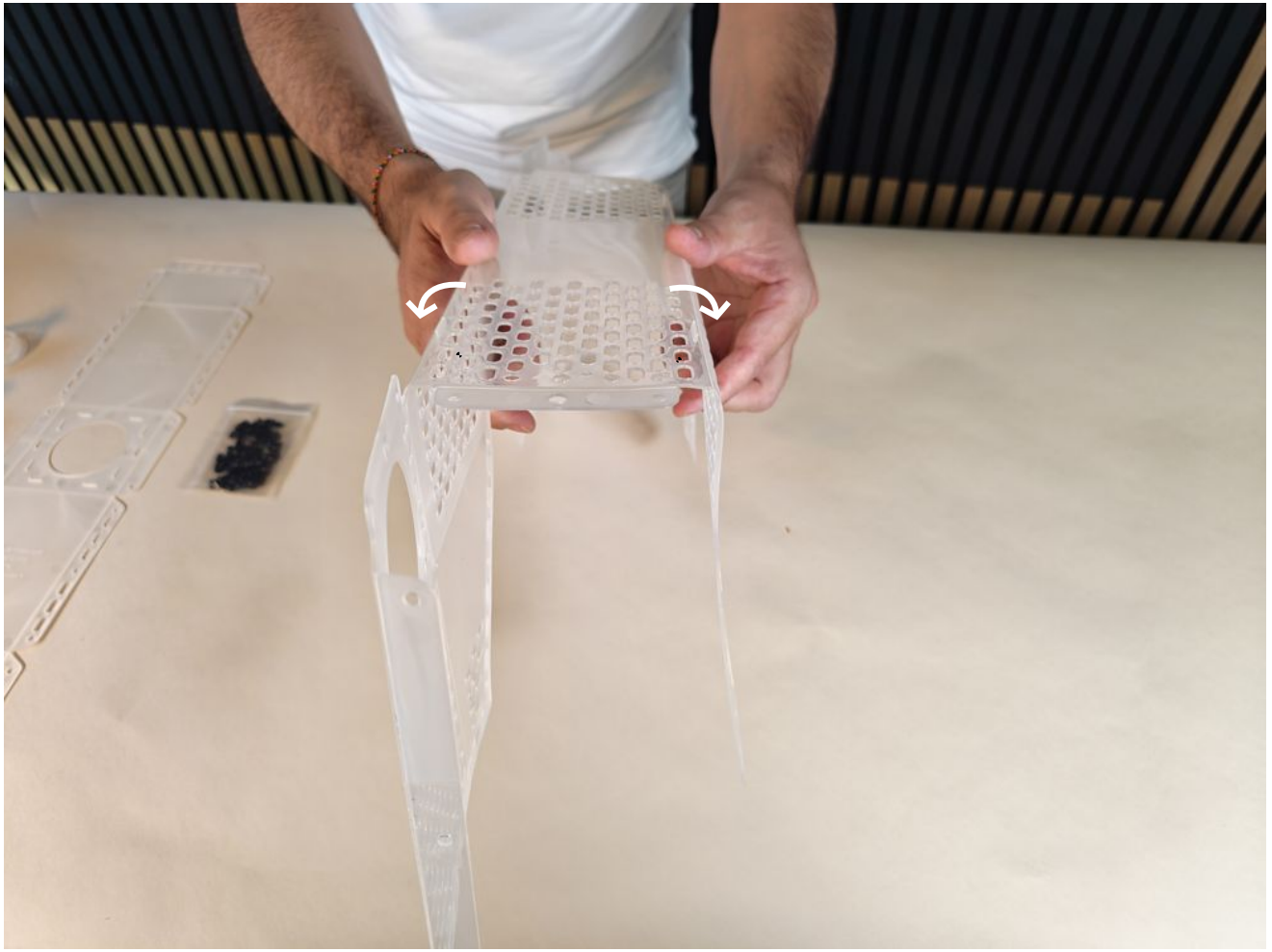
1 STEP 1

Unfold the capture box.



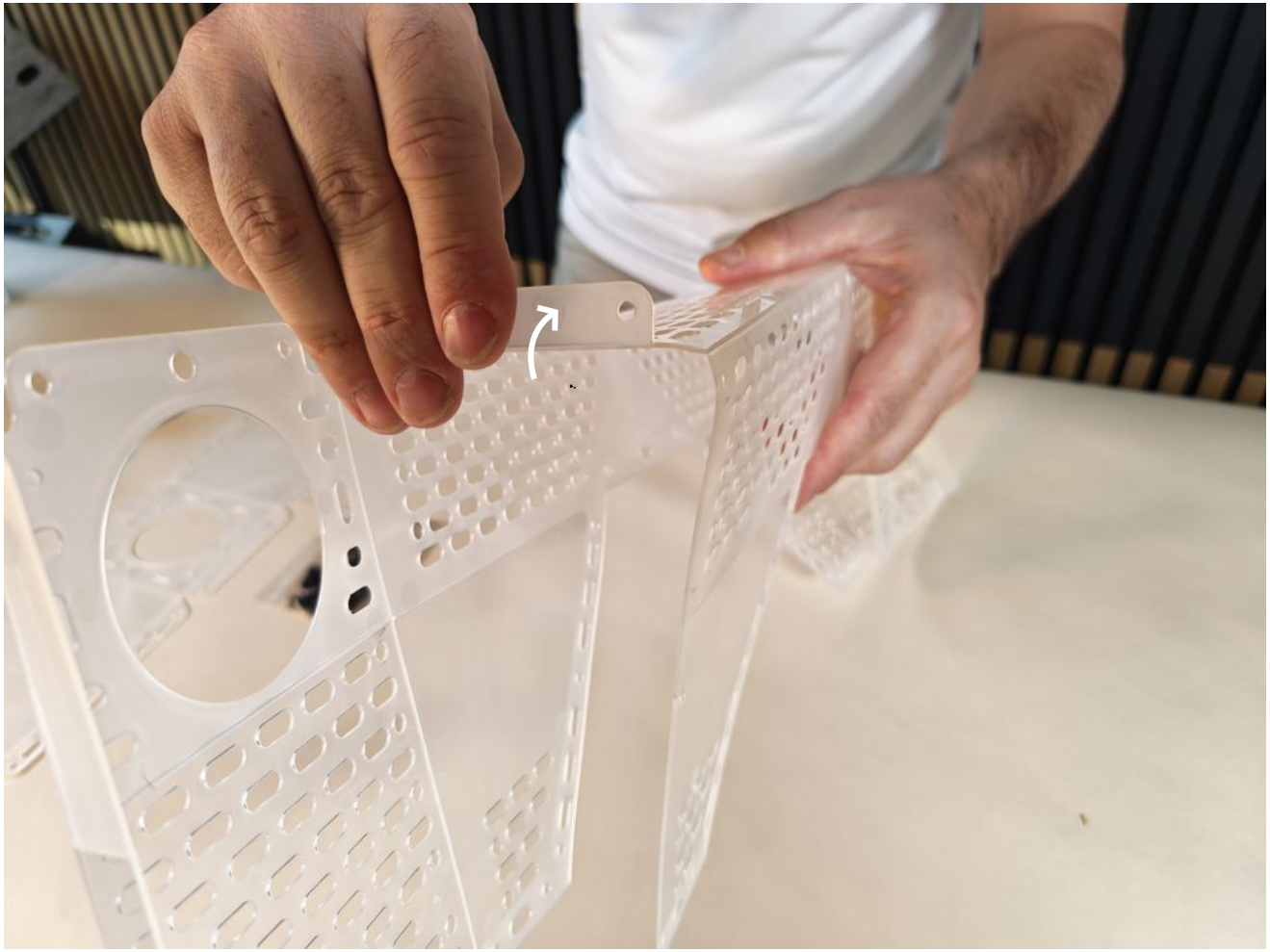
2 STEP 2

Fold the upper part of the capture box to form its roof.



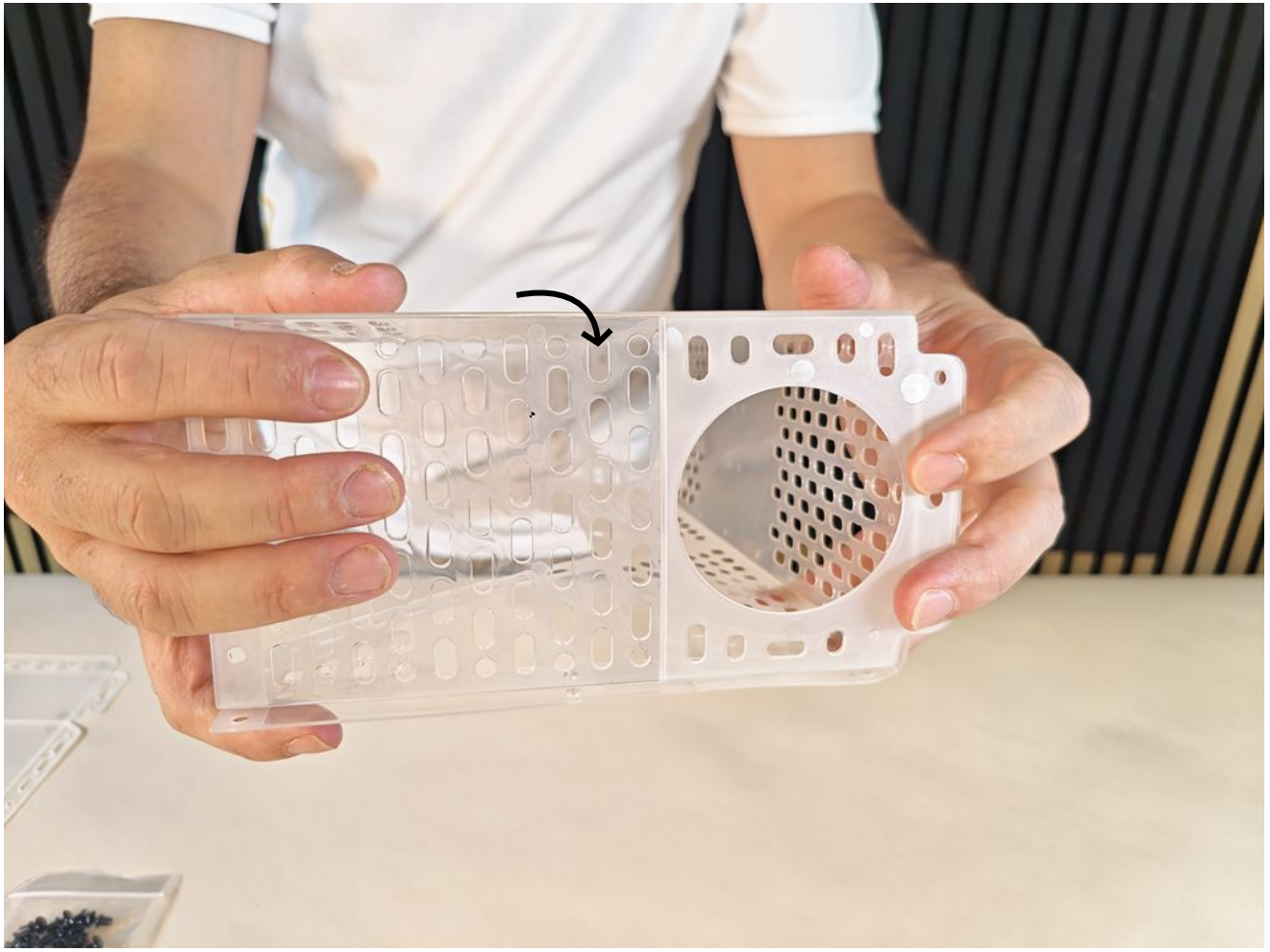
3 STEP 3

Fold the first upper tab upwards.



4 STEP 4

Fold the first side until you obtain the first side wall.

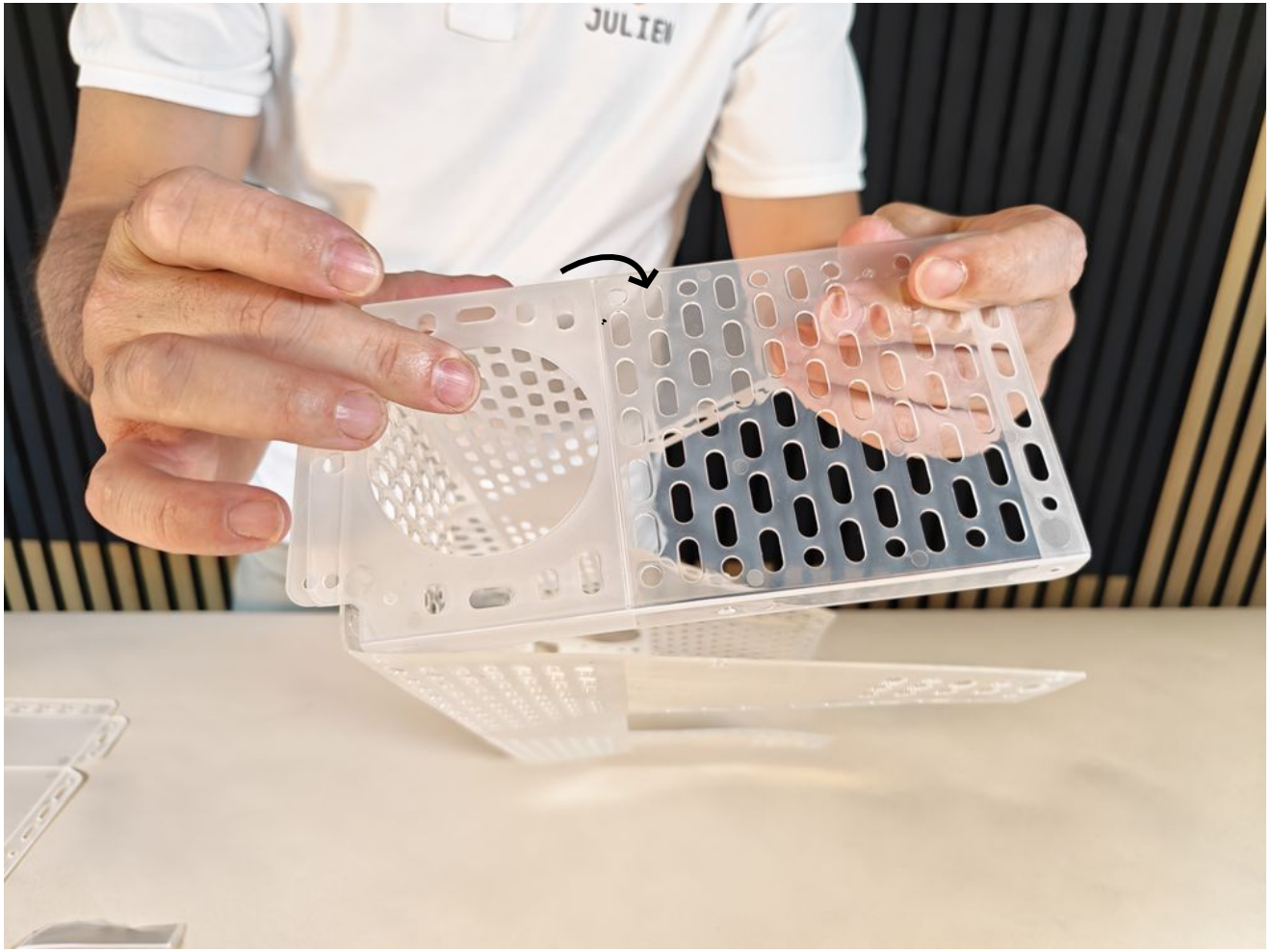


5 STEP 5

Position the second upper tab upwards.

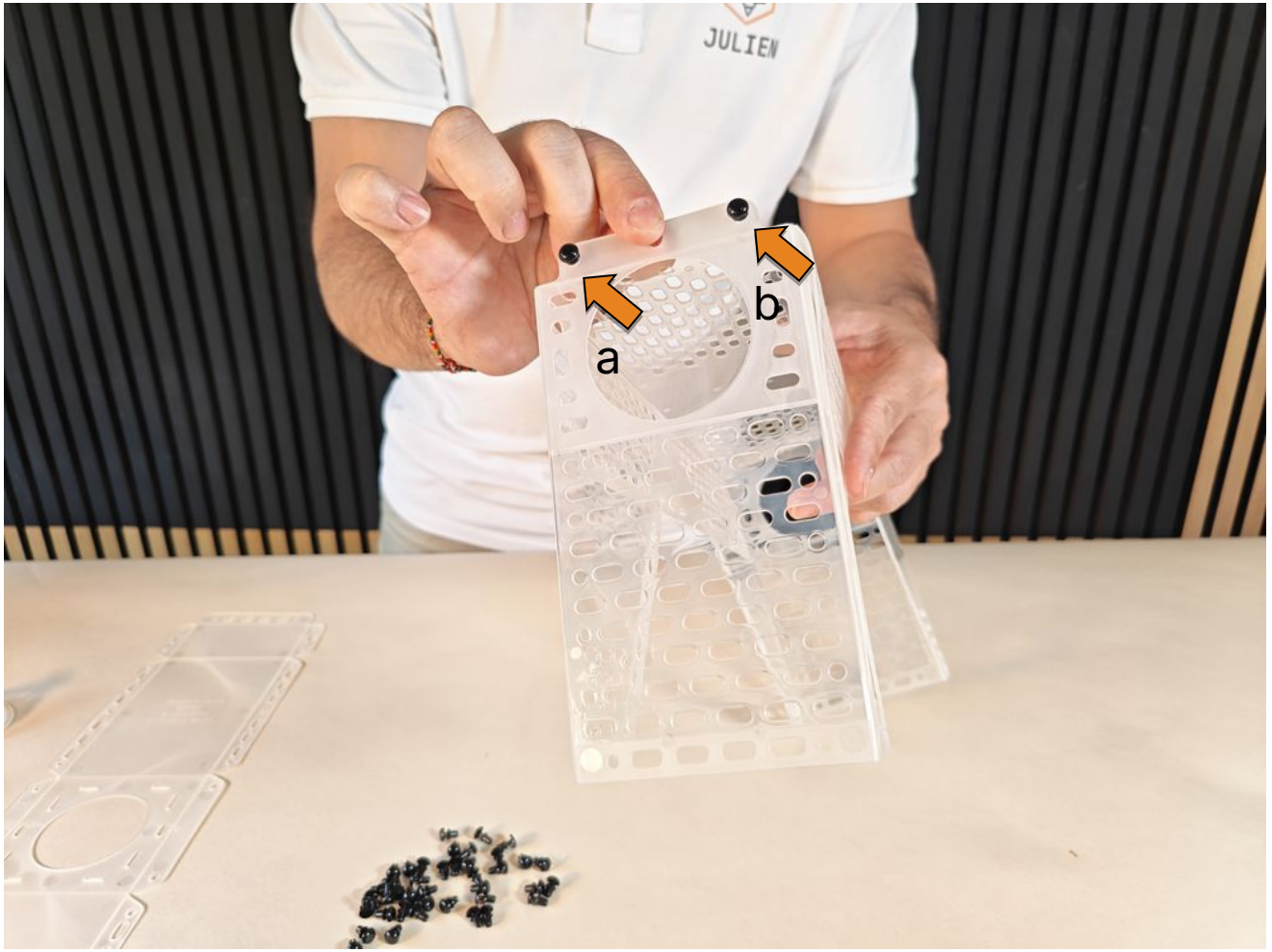
6 STEP 6

Fold the second side until you obtain the second side wall.



7 STEP 7

Insert two black rivets (a,b) into the first tab.



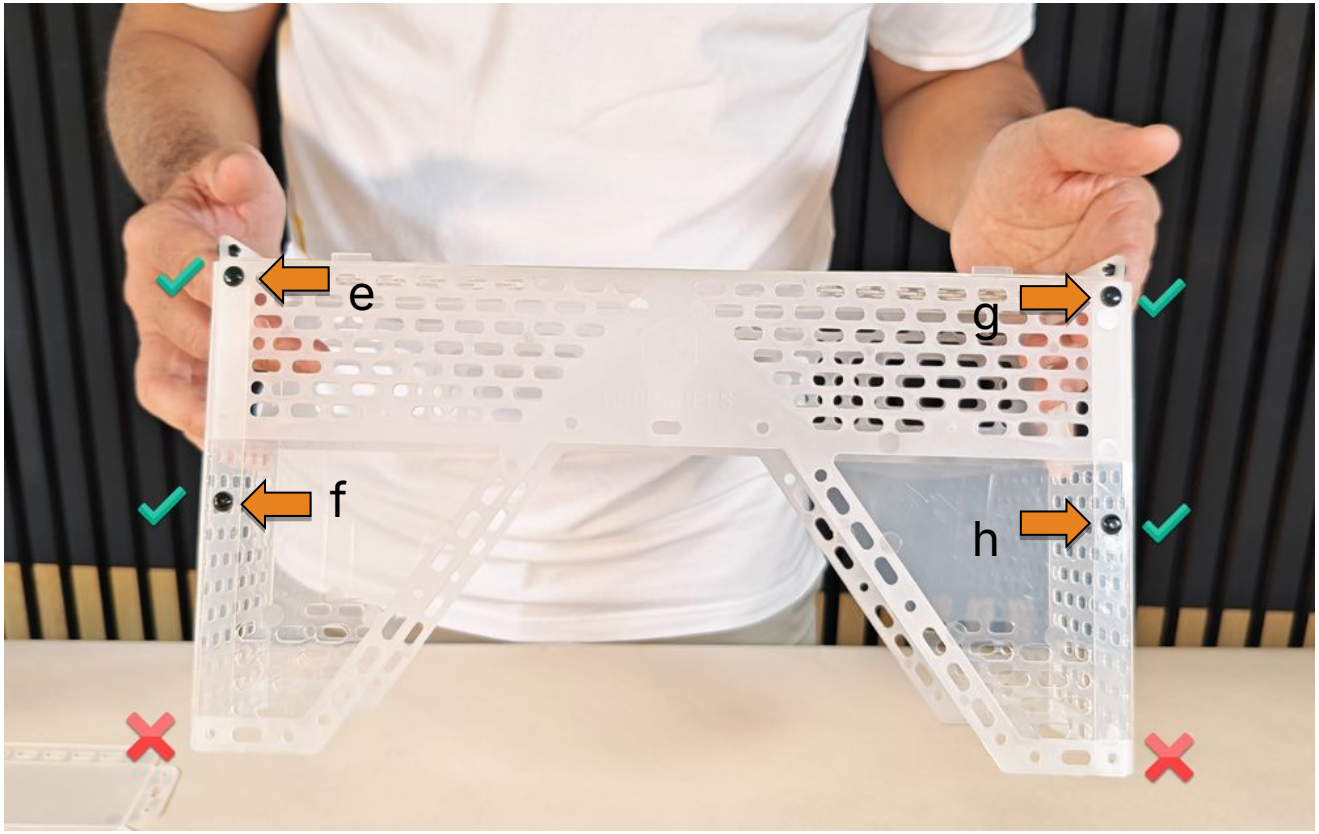
8

STEP 8

Insert two black rivets (c,d) into the second tab.

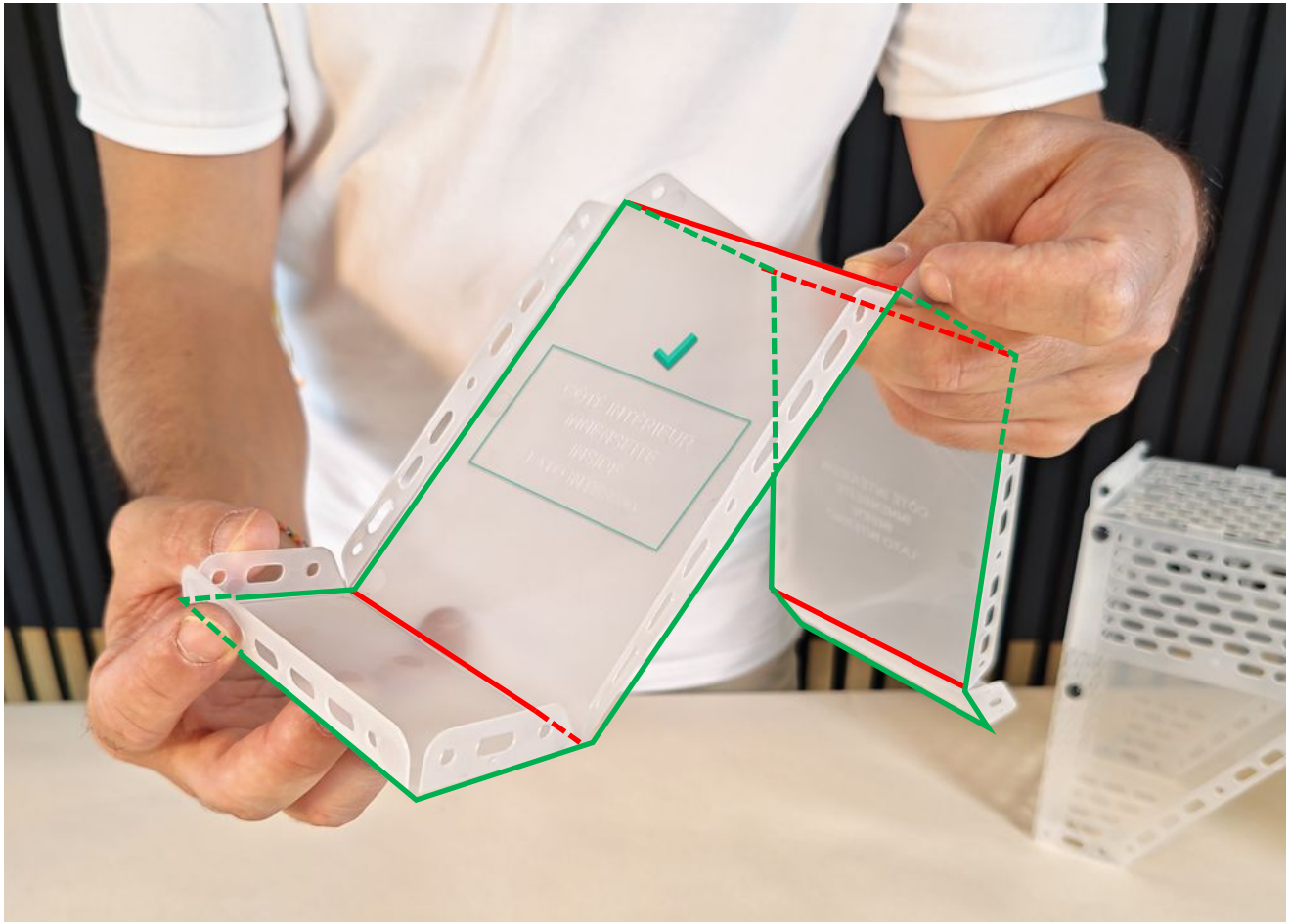
9 STEP 9

Close the two side walls using four rivets. Two for the left wall (e✓,f✓), and two for the right wall (g✓,h✓). Do not insert rivets into the lower holes (✕✕).



10 STEP 10

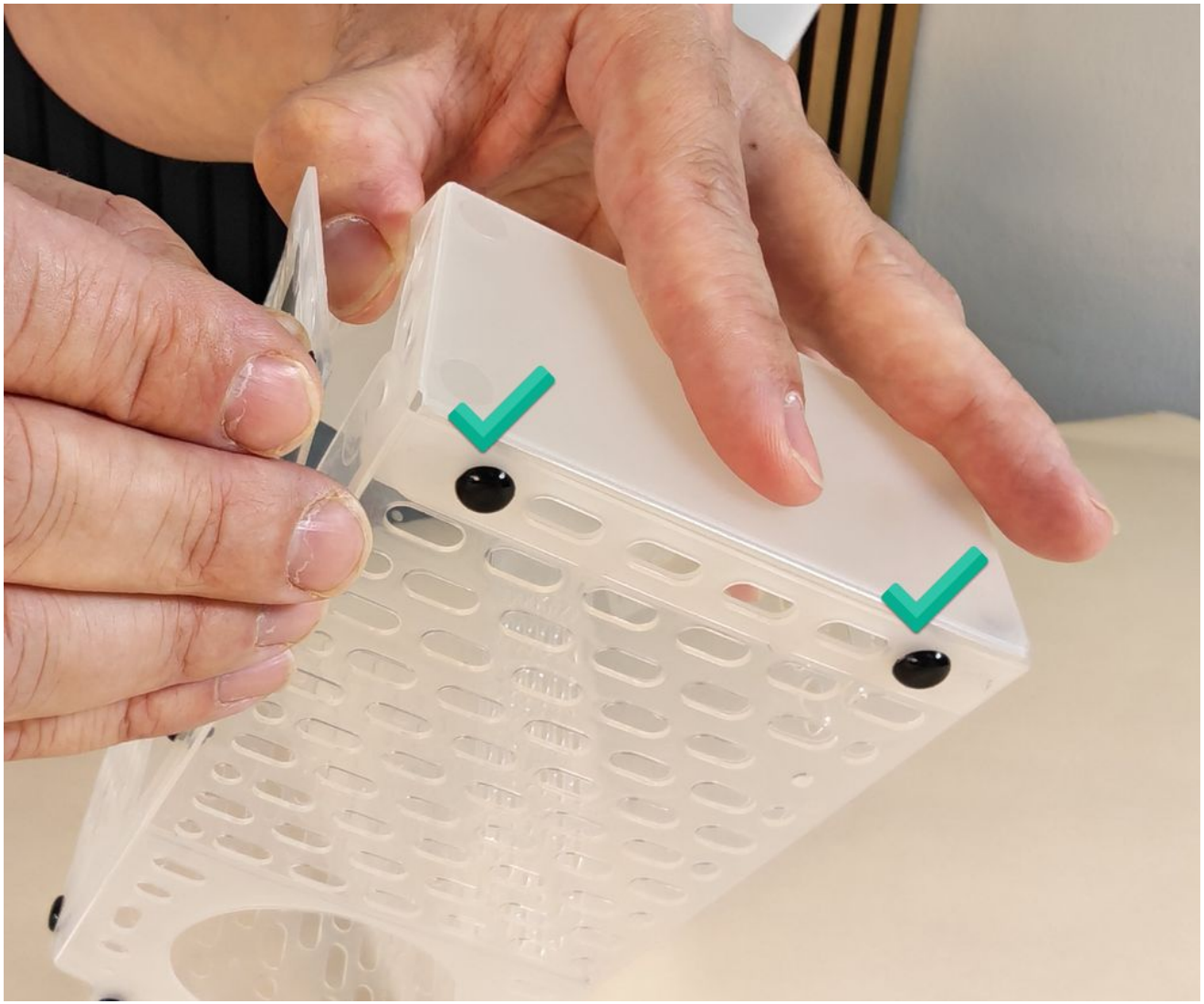
Form the lower part of the capture box by folding the tabs towards the inside of the box, with the marking (✓) facing inwards. Fold the surfaces so that they take the shape of the lower part of the capture box.



11

STEP 11

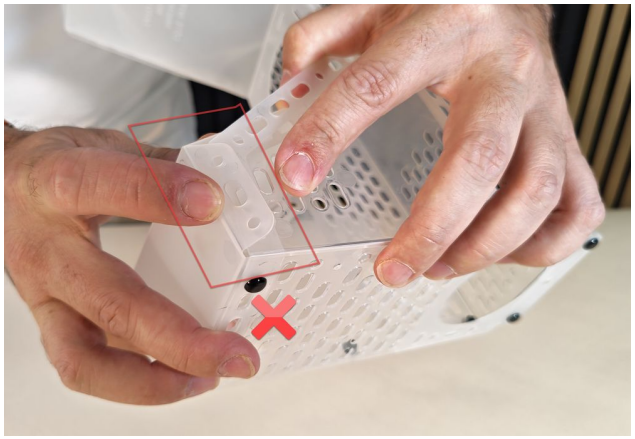
Attach each cover by inserting two rivets. Position the tabs correctly (see next page) when inserting the rivets.

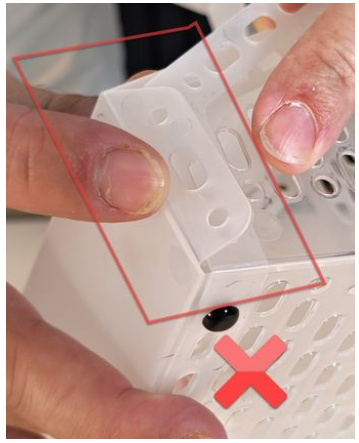


12 STEP 12

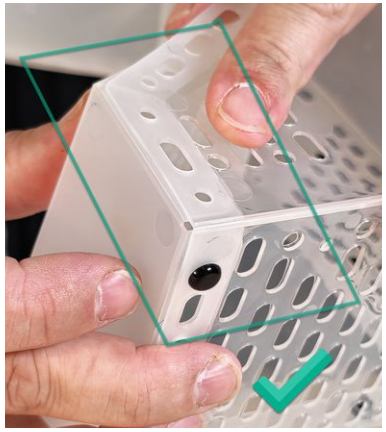
Tuck the tab in correctly so that it sits on the inside (✓) of the capture box and not on the outside (✕).

AVOID





CORRECT



13

STEP 13

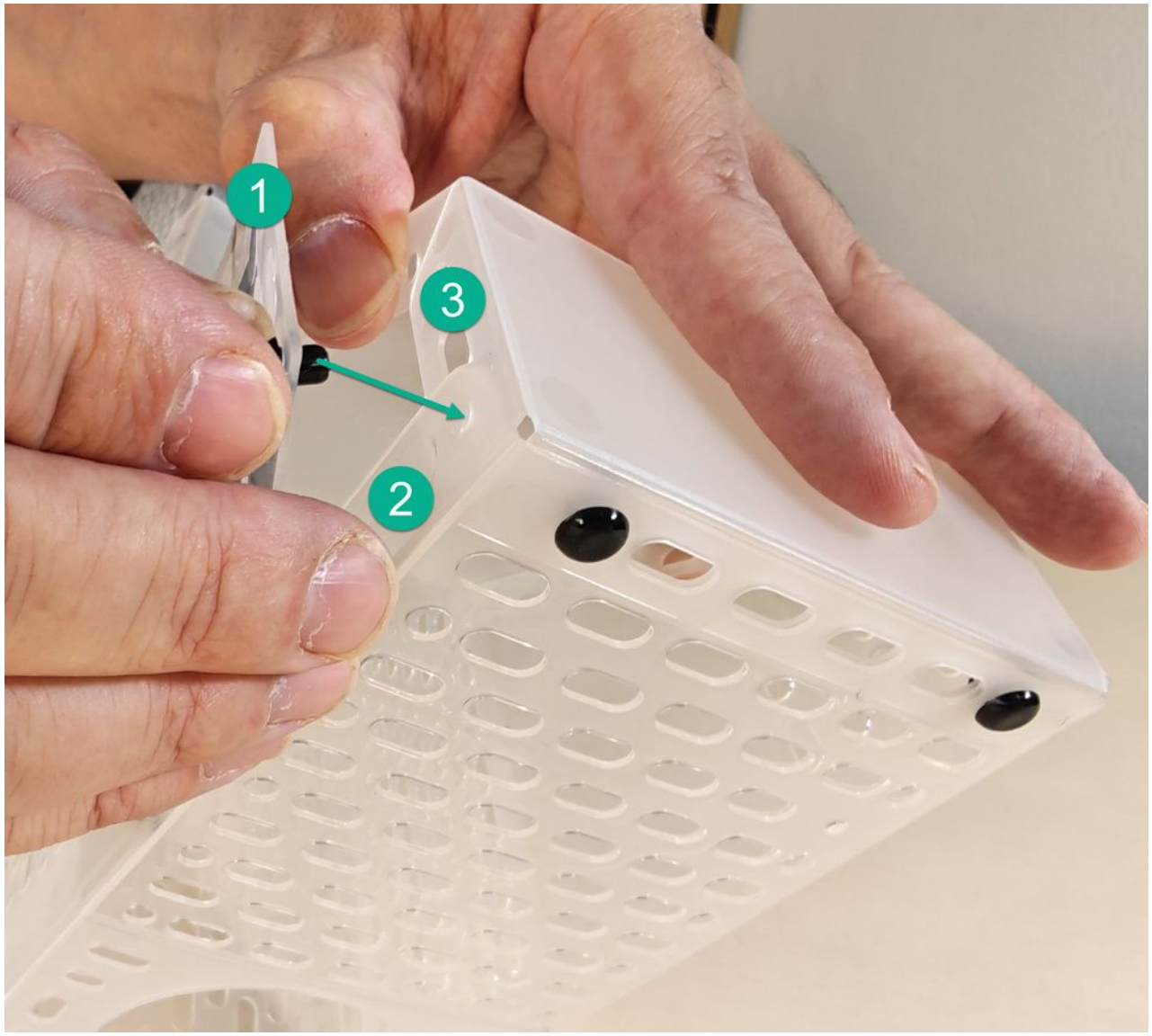
Add the corner rivets to lock the assembly. These rivets join one wall with two tabs (see the sequence on the next page).

14 STEP 14

Insert the rivet successively into wall 1, then tab 2, then tab 3:

- rivet into 1
- rivet into 1+2
- rivet into 1+2+3

Do this for both the left and right corners.



15

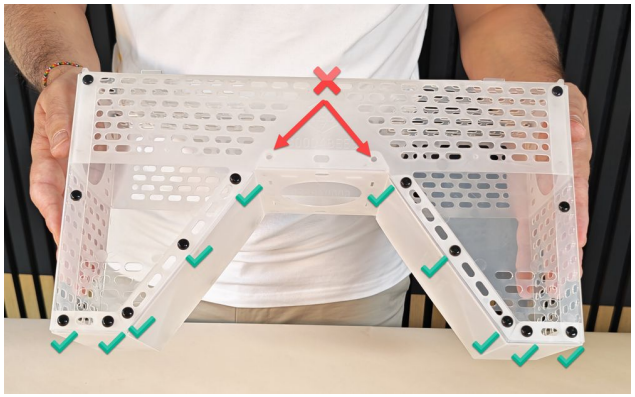
STEP 15

Then insert all the side rivets.

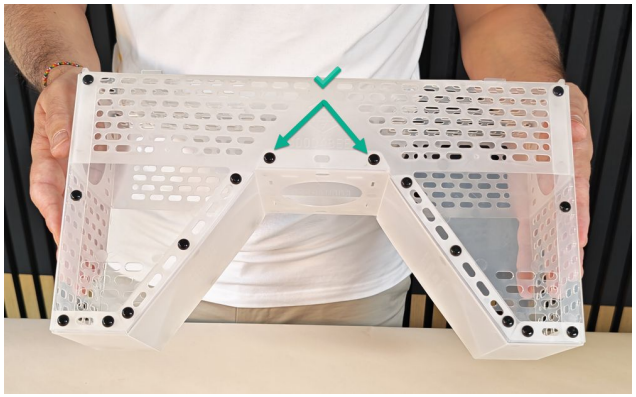
× Warning ×

Insert the two upper side rivets ✓ last ✓.

NOT THE CENTRE YET



CENTRE RIVETED



16 STEP 16

Insert the two side cones into the circular side openings.

17 **STEP 17**

Insert the central cone into the central circular opening.

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PART 2

BEEHIVE PROTECTION DEVICE

18

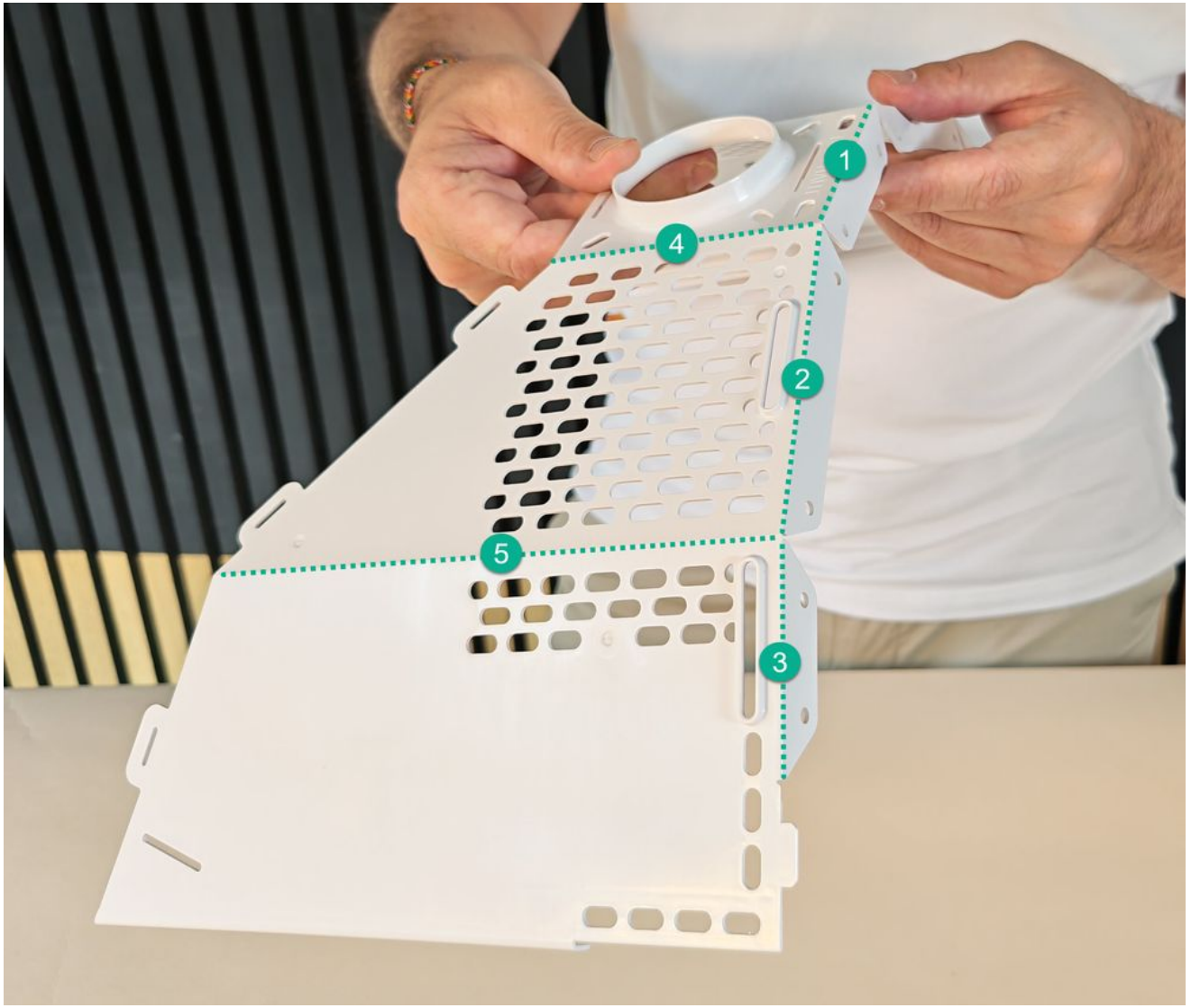
STEP 18

Take the upper cover of the beehive protection device and fold the tabs so that they form an angle of approximately 90° with the surfaces they are attached to.

19

STEP 19

Fold the tabs in the order shown (1, 2, 3), then fold the walls (4, 5).



20 STEP 20

Approximately 45° here.

21

STEP 21

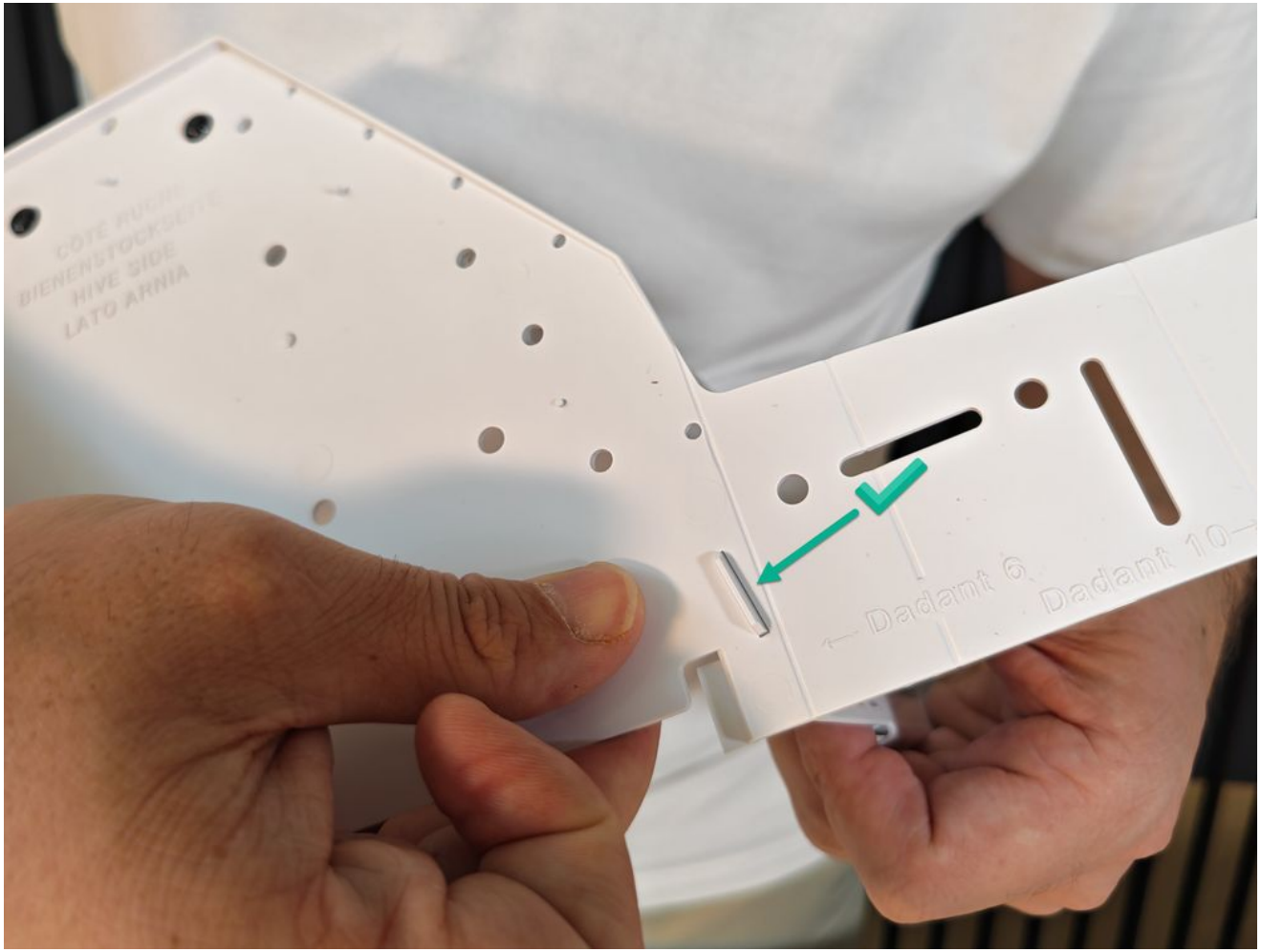
Repeat the same folds (tabs + walls) on the other side of the upper cover.

22 STEP 22

Attach the rear wall to the upper cover using two rivets. The marking (✓) must face outwards.

23 STEP 23

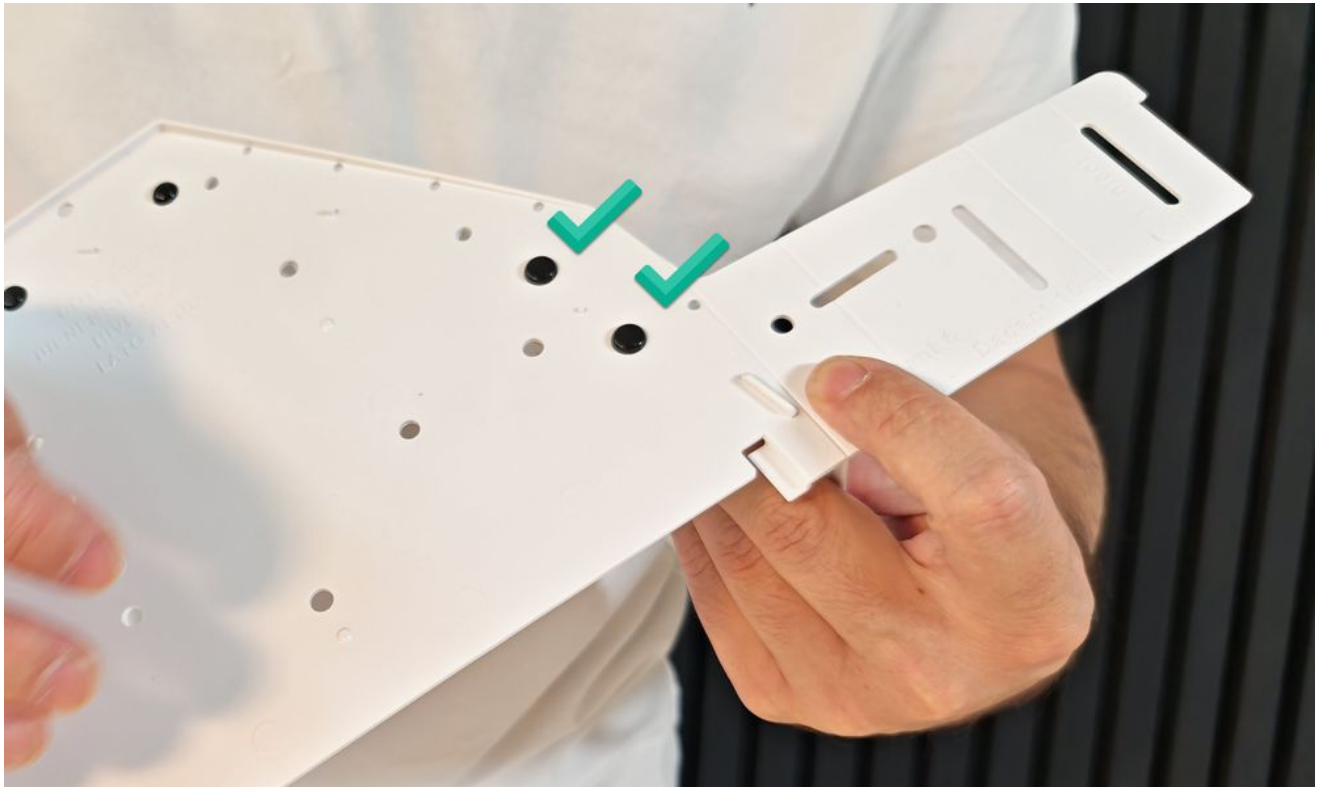
Position the tab of the upper cover in the slot of the rear wall.



24 STEP 24

Insert two rivets (✓ ✓) to secure the right-hand side of the upper cover to the side wall.

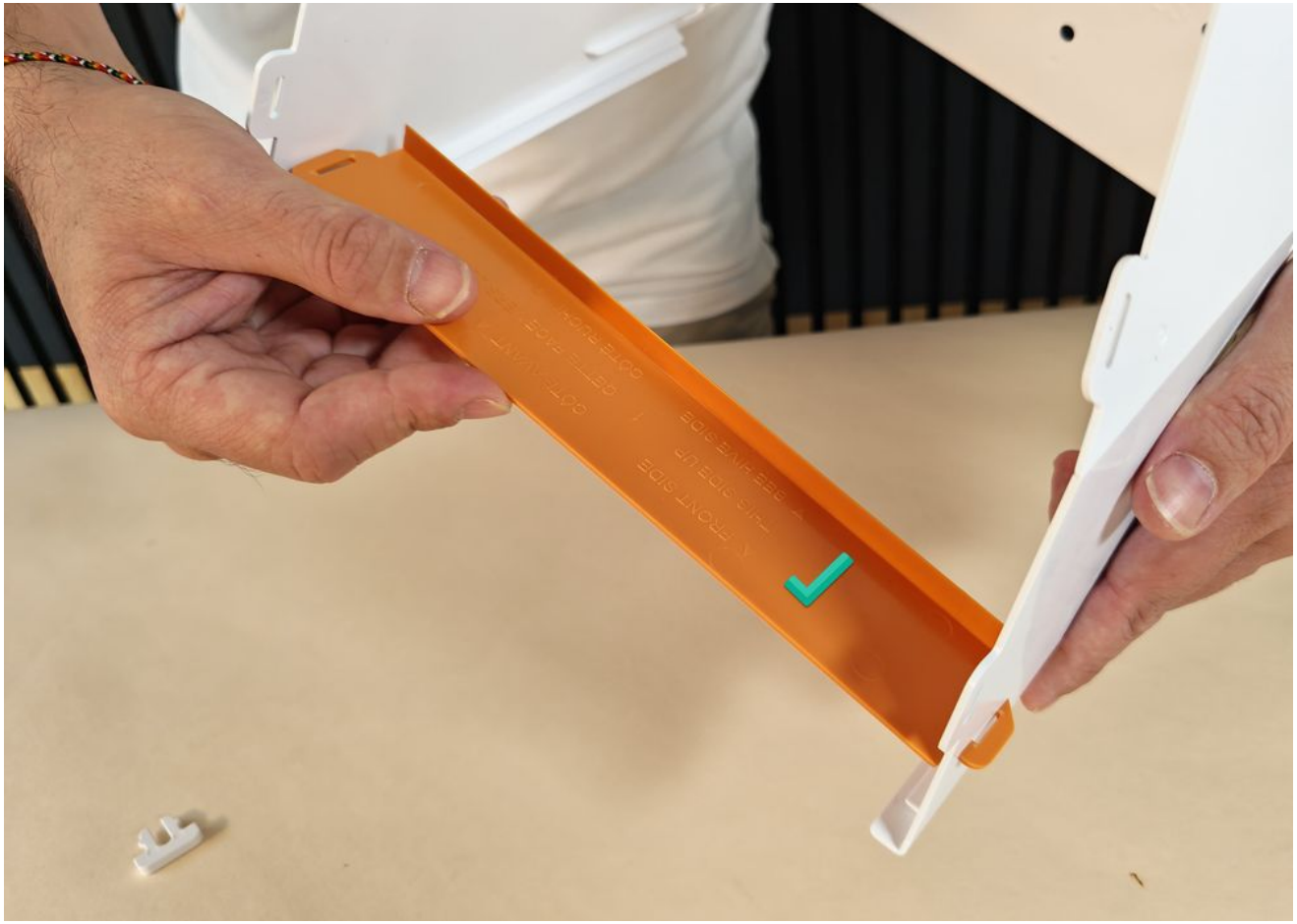
Do the same for the left-hand side.



25

STEP 25

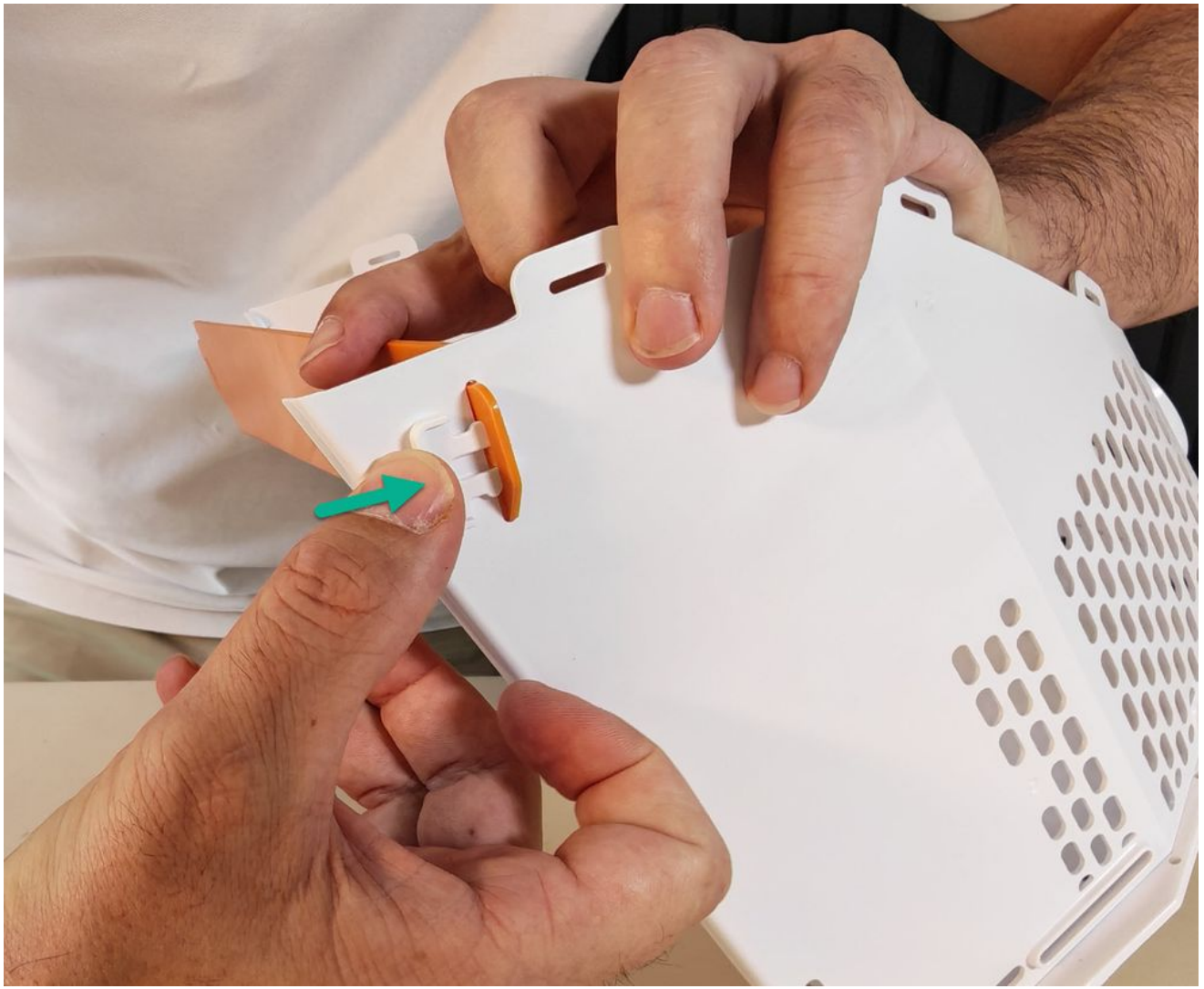
Insert the two tabs of the transverse ramp into the two slots of the upper cover. Make sure the L-shaped profile points upwards!



26

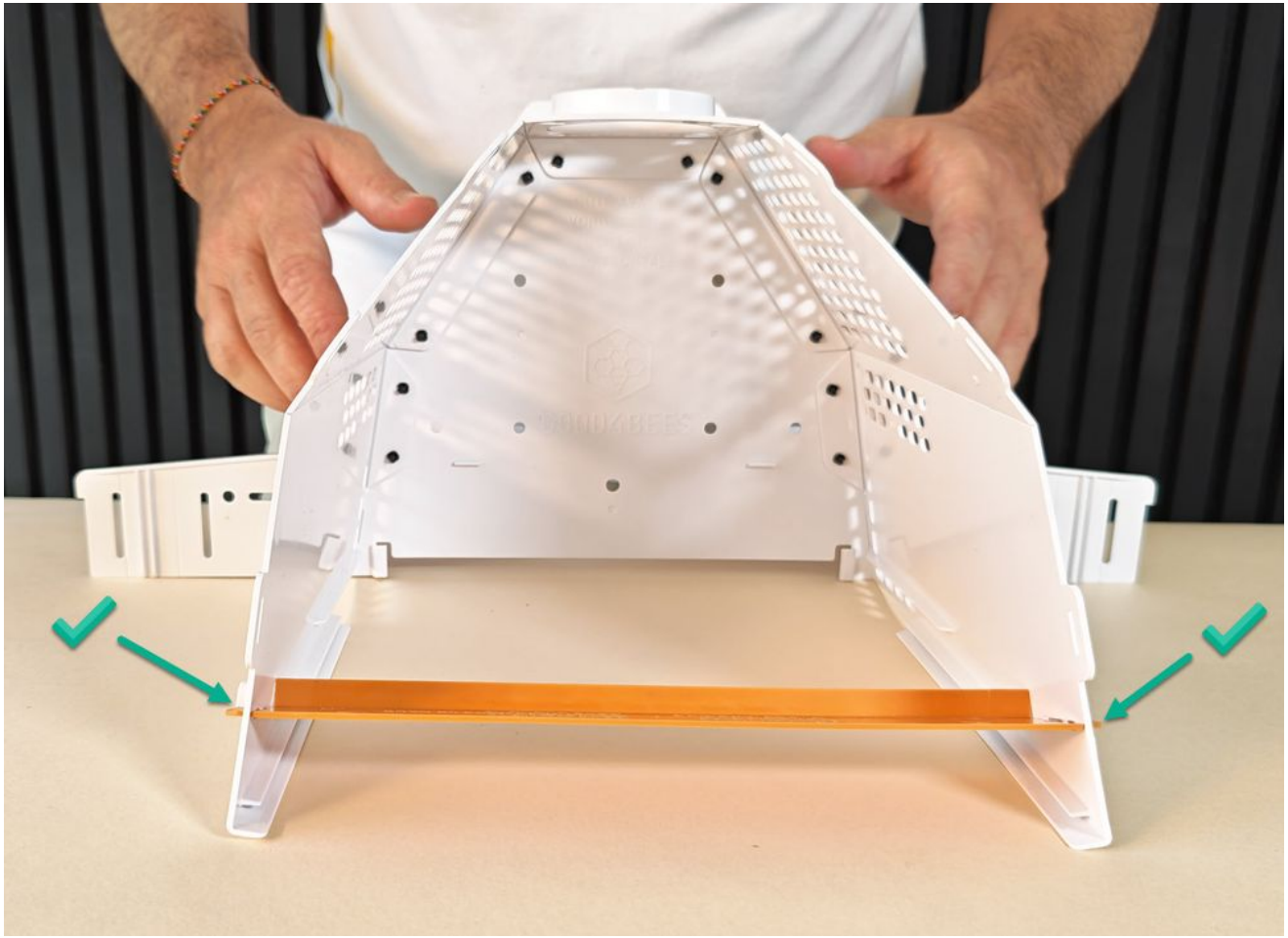
STEP 26

Attach each tab of the transverse ramp by inserting one clip into each.



27 STEP 27

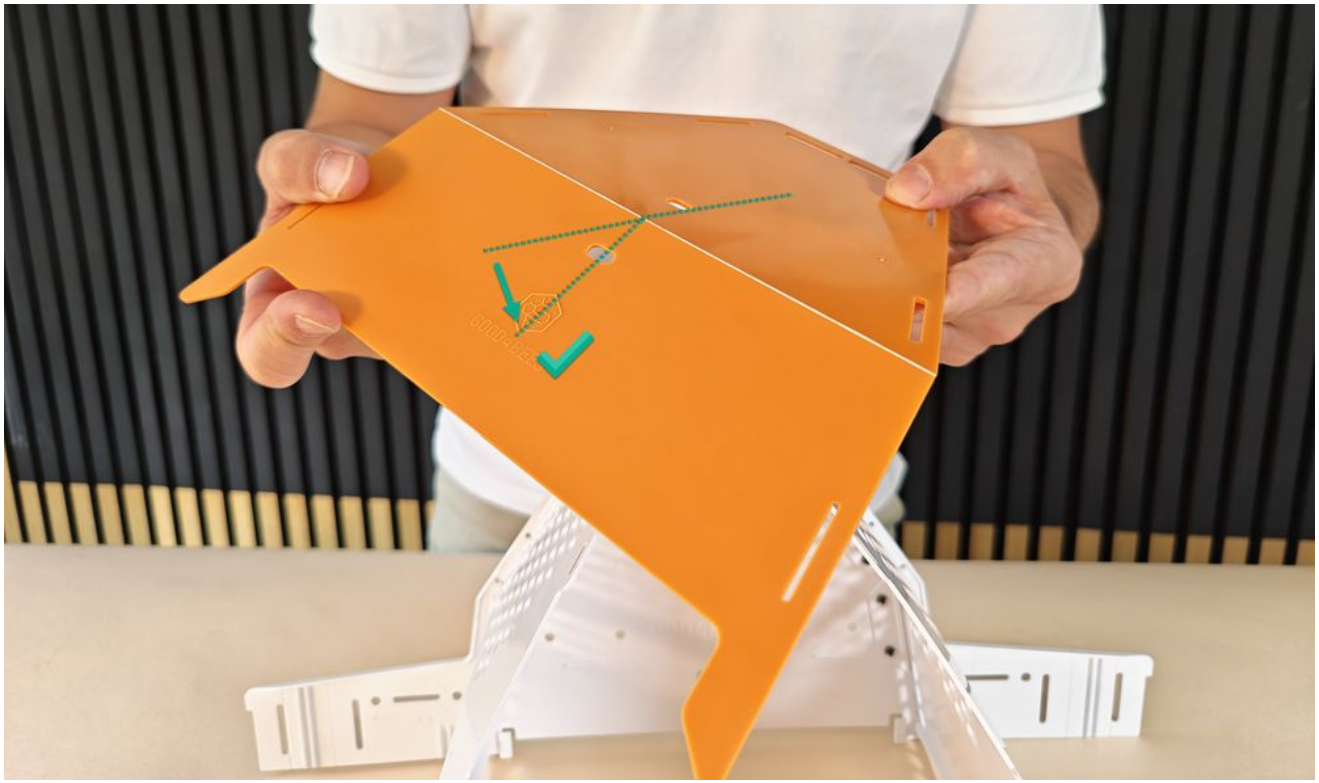
The transverse ramp is now attached to the upper cover of the beehive protection device; the clips have been inserted on the left and right (✓ ✓) .



28

STEP 28

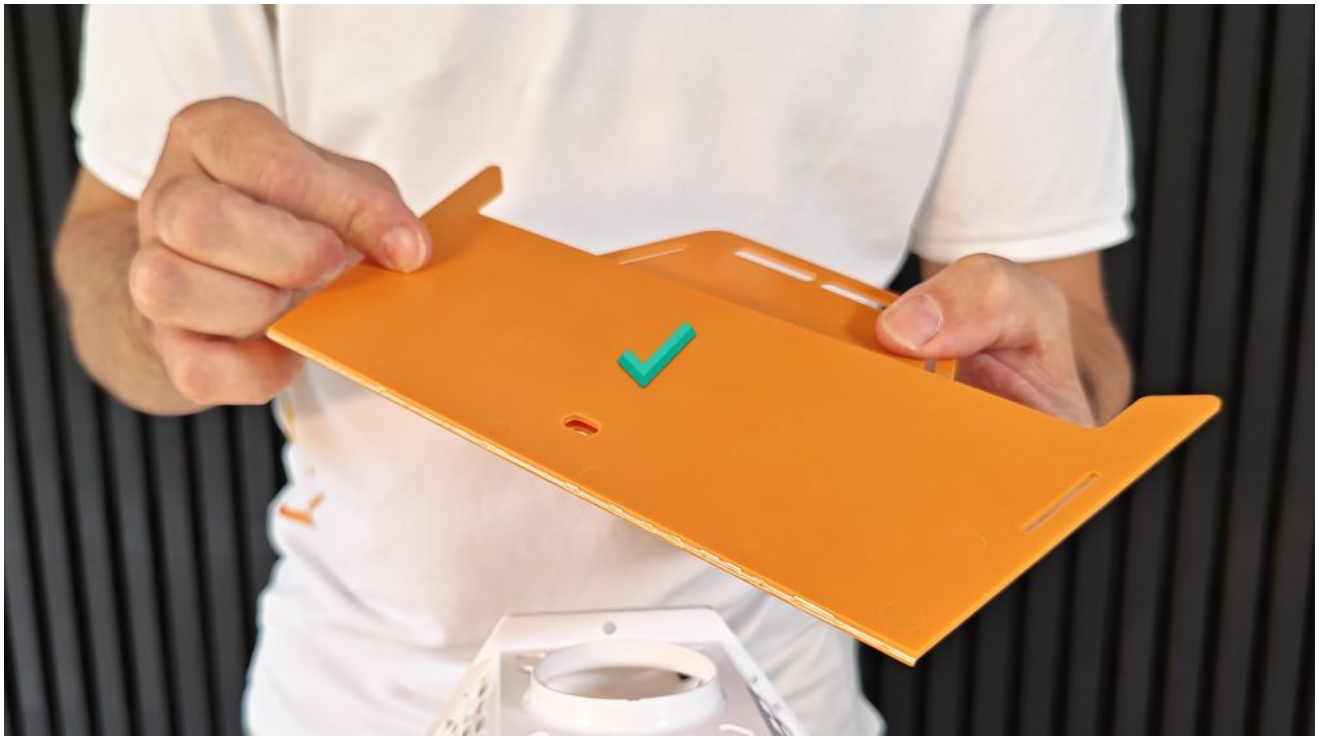
Fold the entrance door of the front cover to form an angle of approximately 30°, matching the shape of the upper cover.



29

STEP 29

Also fold the entrance door in the opposite direction to soften the fold line.



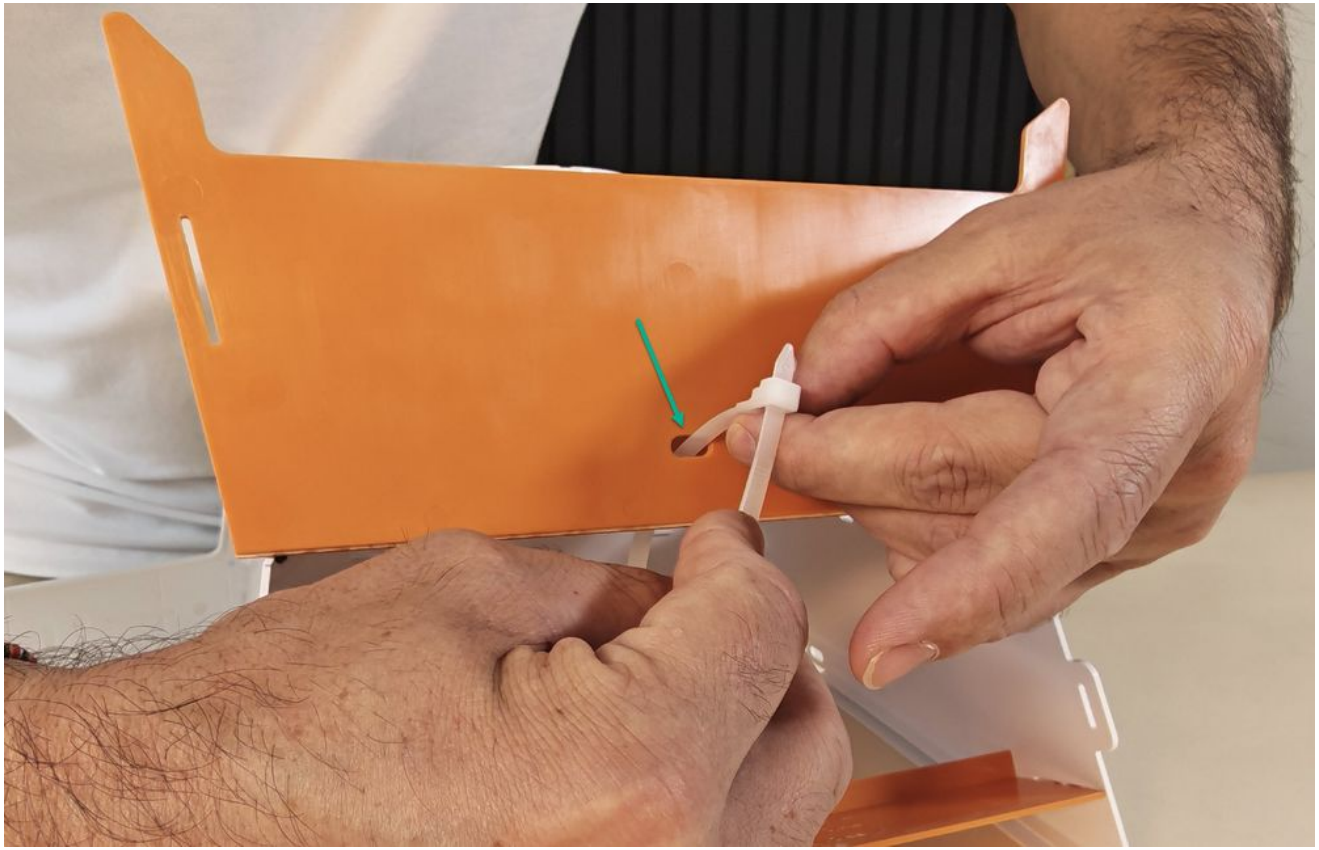
30 STEP 30

Fit the entrance cover using four clips (✓✓✓✓). Do not insert the two clips used to close the entrance door (✕✕)

31

STEP 31

Open the door, insert a cable tie into the two central holes of the front cover, and tighten it.



32

STEP 32

The beehive protection device is now assembled! You can now install it on your hive!

✓ FINAL CHECK

- ✓ All parts are correctly oriented.
- ✓ The cones, rivets and clips are correctly assembled.

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PART 3

USER MANUAL

GOOD4BEES beehive protection devices V1 & V2

Installation on the hive · Seasonal adjustments

COMPATIBILITY WITH DIFFERENT HIVE TYPES

The system can be easily fitted to the front of the hives shown below:

Wooden hive
10–12 frames

Wooden hive - 10 frames
Nicot bottom board

Full Nicot hive - 10 frames
(new version)

Polystyrene hive
Mini Plus, Segebergers

High-quality polystyrene hive
10–12 frames, e.g. Abelo, Lyson

Polystyrene nucleus hive
Mini Plus or Quadri

Wooden nucleus hive

Wooden nucleus hive
with Nicot bottom board

HIVES THAT ARE HARDER TO EQUIP

Installation on this type of hive requires the front roof to be removed or the front of the hive to be modified:

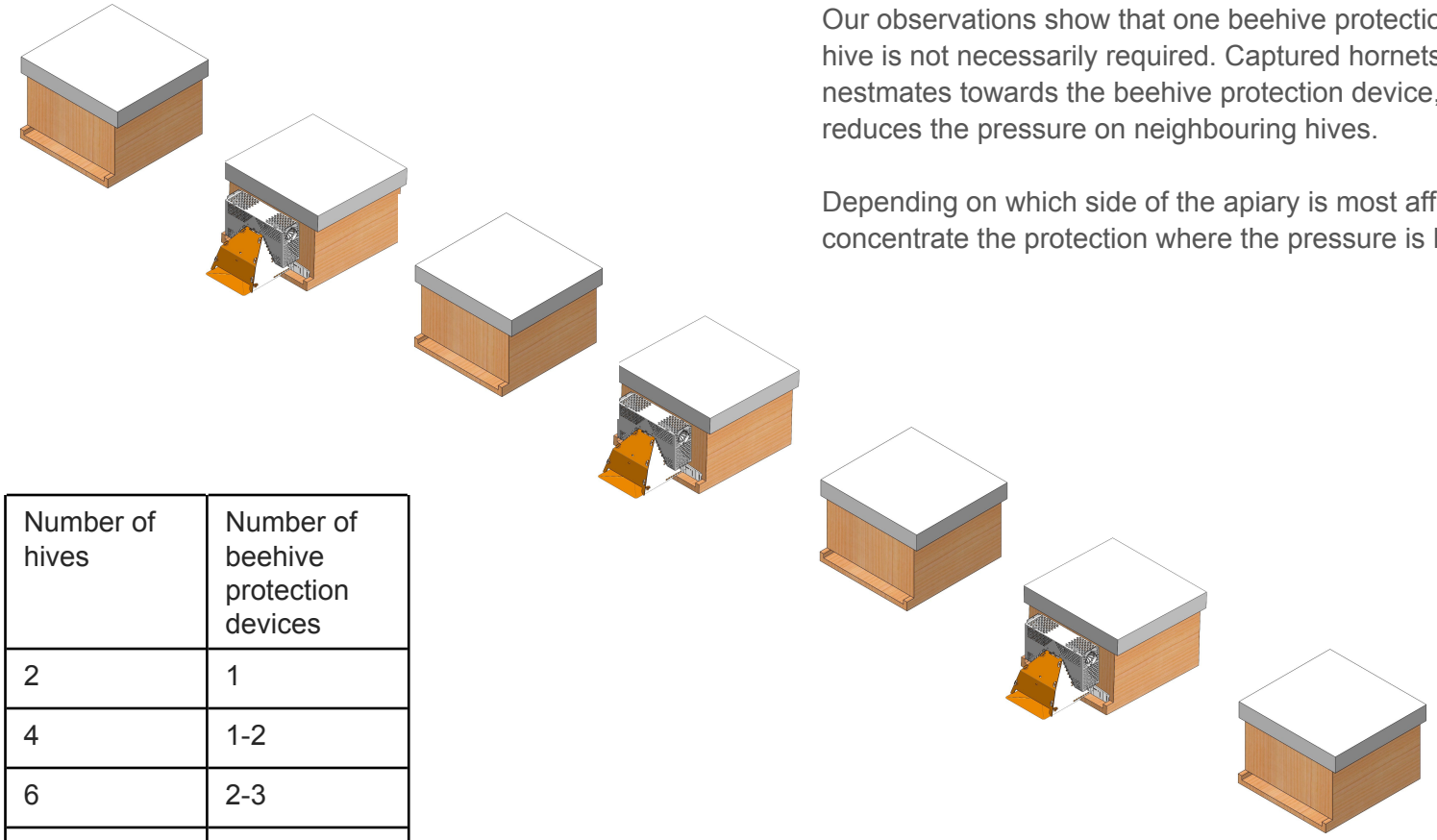
Wooden hive with front roof

Solution: remove / unscrew the front roof

Full Nicot hive (older version)

Solution: cut off the plastic strip

Positioning the beehive protection devices in the apiary



Our observations show that one beehive protection device per hive is not necessarily required. Captured hornets attract their nestmates towards the beehive protection device, which reduces the pressure on neighbouring hives.

Depending on which side of the apiary is most affected, concentrate the protection where the pressure is highest.

Number of hives	Number of beehive protection devices
2	1
4	1-2
6	2-3
8	2-4
10	3-5
12	3-6

ATTACHING TO THE HIVE — 1. MEASURE, 2. MARK

Follow these steps to adapt the beehive protection device to your hive:

1. Measure the width of your landing board (e.g. Nicot bottom board or wooden bottom board).

2. Mark the sides of the rear plate. For 12-frame Dadant hives, proceed directly to step 4.

Caption (right-hand image):
1. 12-frame Dadant (maximum width) | 2. 10-frame Dadant, Nicot bottom board | 3. 10-frame Dadant, wooden bottom board | 4. 6-frame Dadant, Nicot bottom board | 5. 6-frame Dadant, wooden bottom board

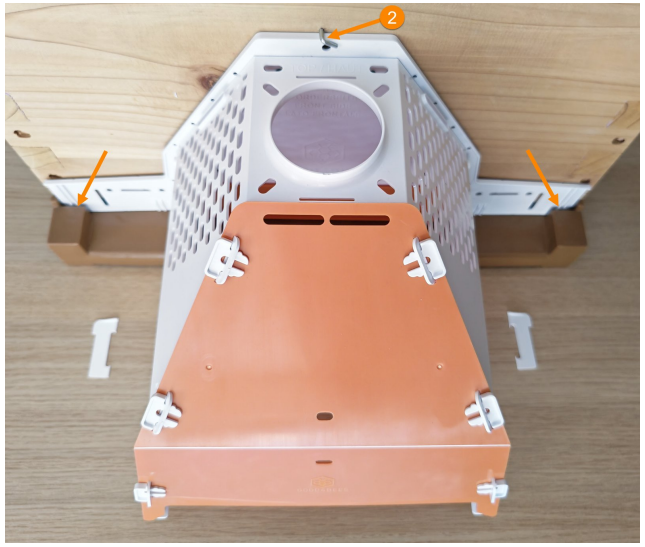
ATTACHING TO THE HIVE — 3. CUT

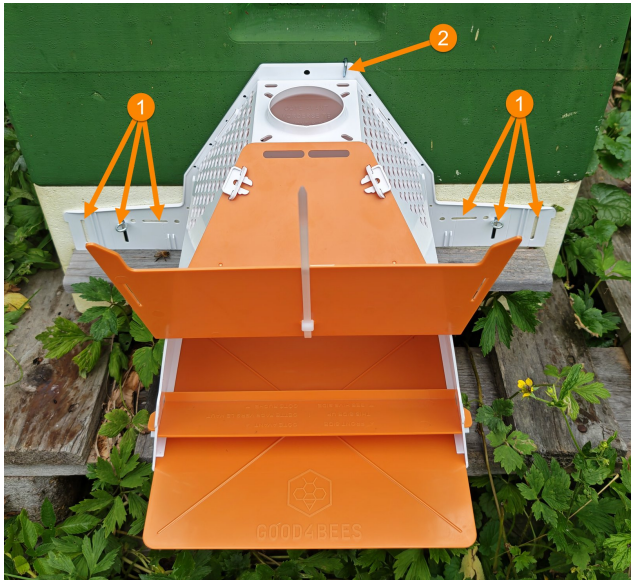
3. Cut the sides of the rear plate of the beehive protection device at the marked positions, according to your bottom board.

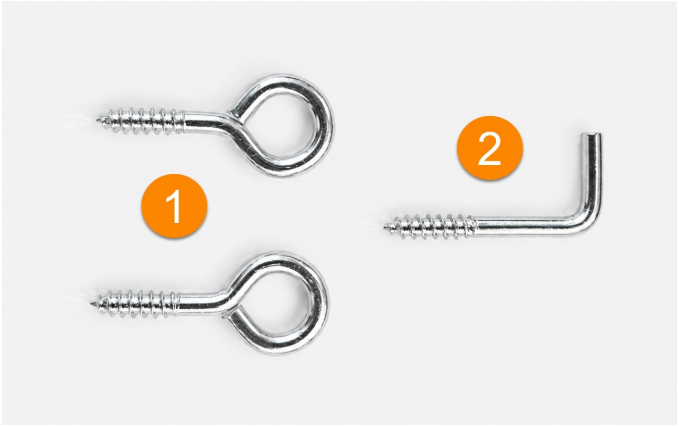
ATTACHING TO THE HIVE — SCREWS AND BOTTOM BOARDS

Nicot bottom boards (left-hand image): no screws are required to secure the lower part of the beehive protection device, as the rear plate clips directly into the bottom board. Only fit one L-shaped screw at the top. **Full Nicot hives:** see the installation using tension straps below.

Other bottom boards (right-hand image): position two eye screws (1) at the bottom in one of the 3 oblong holes and fit one L-shaped screw (2) at the top.







4. Installation using tension straps (e.g. Nicot hive body, bottom image).

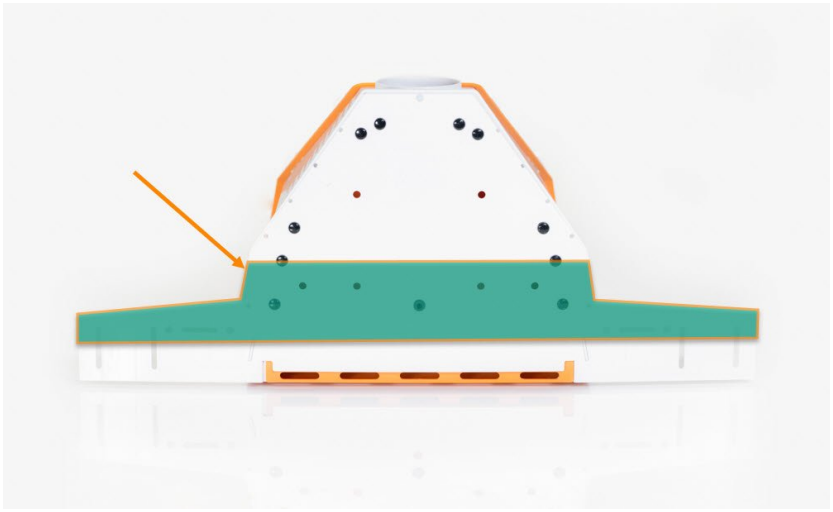
If the beehive protection device does not fit flush against the hive, seal any gaps with flexible foam (see next page).

SEALING GAPS WITH FLEXIBLE FOAM

If the beehive protection device does not fit flush against the surface of the hive body, we recommend using flexible foam (e.g. polyurethane foam) to seal any gaps and force the bees to enter through the front of the beehive protection device.

For a Nicot hive body, the recommended application area is highlighted in green in the right-hand image. The aim is to seal the area behind the beehive protection device so that bees cannot enter from above or from the sides.

Flexible white polyurethane foam. Recommended thickness: 10, 15 or 20 mm



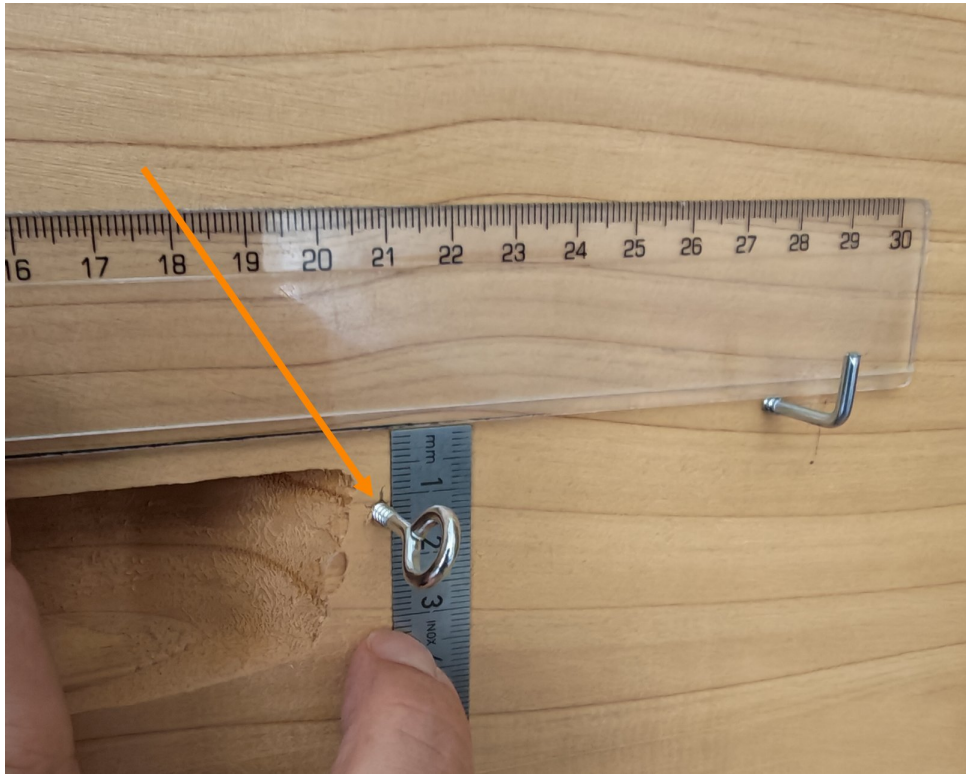
Recommended foam area for a Nicot hive

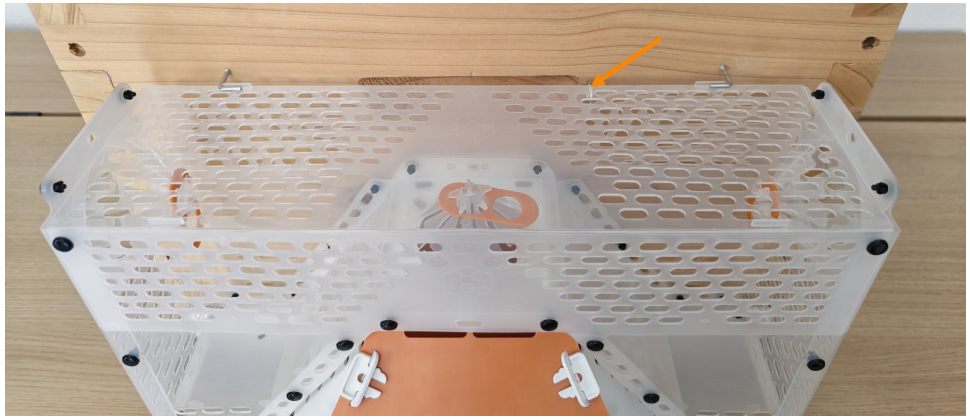
ATTACHING THE CAPTURE BOX — 5. L-SHAPED SCREWS

5. Install the capture box on the beehive protection device. Insert the L-shaped screws into the capture box and mark their positions on the hive body.
Warning: screw the L-shaped screws in only 3–4 mm, no further!

ATTACHING THE CAPTURE BOX — 6. SUPPORT SCREW

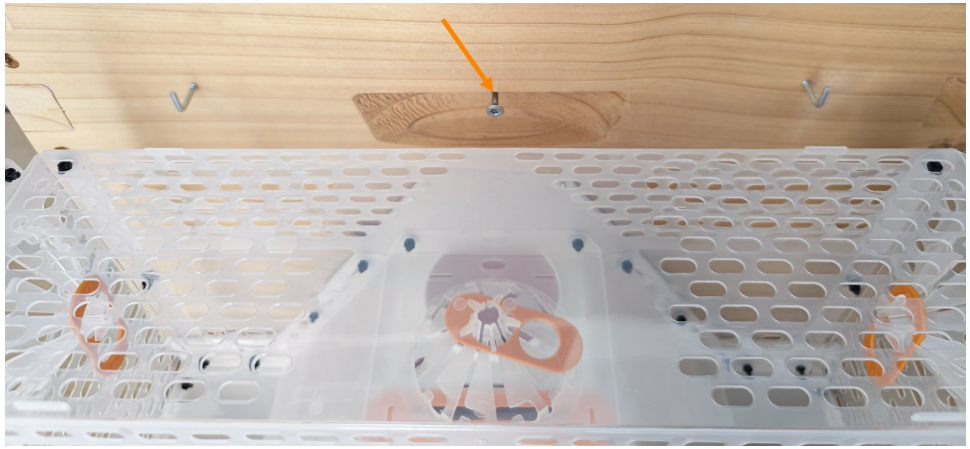
6. To prevent the capture box from lifting, screw an additional screw into the hive body 12–15 mm below the two L-shaped screws. This screw acts as a stop and stabilises the beehive protection device.





SUPPORT VARIANTS — INSTALLATION COMPLETE

In the case below left, the handle obstructs the support screw, but the screw still provides reliable support. Alternatively, use a 35 mm screw to position the support point centrally, as shown in the right-hand image:



The installation of the beehive protection device is now complete! If you have any questions or your hive does not allow installation, please record a video of the situation and send it to us via WhatsApp at +41 76 204 46 01 so that we can understand the problem and help you find a solution.

ADJUSTMENTS · FEBRUARY TO JULY: LEARNING PHASE AND PEAK TRAFFIC

1 - Orange front panel

- V1 – Front panel folded down
- V2 – Folded up and secured with the white clip

2 - Orange front door (entrance to the beehive protection device)

Do not restrict the bees: help them get used to entering and leaving through the front. The beehive protection device is a new element, and they must become accustomed to it before hornet pressure begins.

- V1 – Without front door
- V2 – Front door installed to reinforce the front

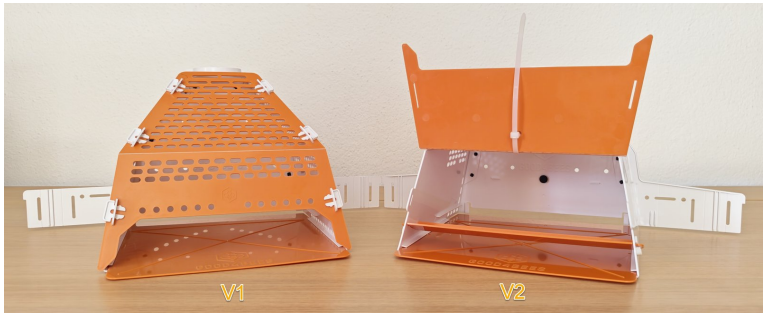
3 - Orange rear door (hive entrance)

Do not install until the drones (male bees) have left the colony.

Equivalent: brown Nicot entrance reducer — or leave the door off completely to increase bee entry speed.

4 - Transparent capture box

Do not install the capture box until the drones have left the colony.



Objective: help the bees become accustomed to the volume of the beehive protection device without any visual obstacle at the front. With the rear door left open, the maximum opening allows smooth traffic, large pollen loads can be brought in without being torn off, and drones (male bees) can leave the colony freely. Notes: 1. If Asian hornet pressure becomes critical, prioritise the health of the colony and install the capture box, even if this means sacrificing a few drones (they will eventually be expelled from the colony anyway). 2. During periods of high temperatures, bees may form clusters outside the hive: in this case, it is best to leave the beehive protection device temporarily open to improve ventilation and reduce the temperature.

ADJUSTMENTS · AUGUST / SEPTEMBER: ACTIVE PROTECTION (PEAK HORNET SEASON)

1 - Orange front panel

- V1 – Front panel folded down
- V2 – Front panel folded down

2 - Orange front door (entrance to the beehive protection device)

Reduce the amount of light entering the front so that hornets do not escape through the front but end up in the capture box.

- V1 – Front door set to 17 mm (3rd pos., see image), then gradually 12 and 7 mm
- V2 – Front door not installed. Install it only if hornets escape.

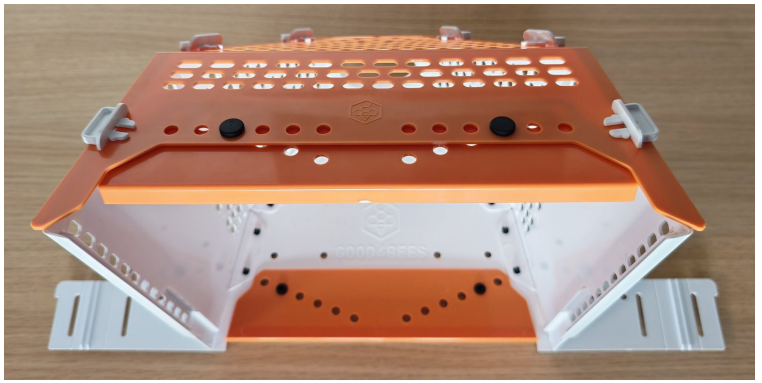
3 - Orange rear door (hive entrance)

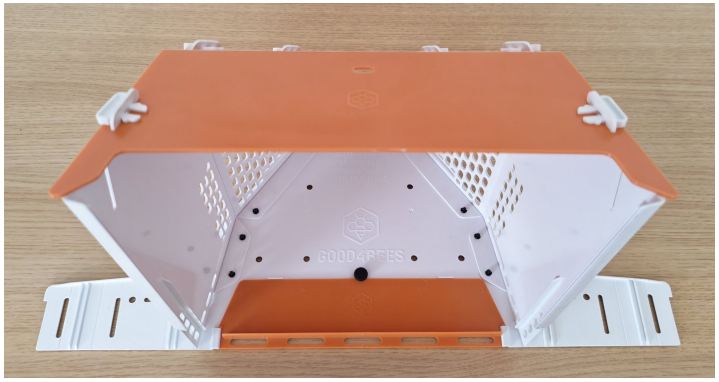
Install once the drones have left the colony (equivalent: white Nicot entrance reducer).

- V1 – Rear door set to 4.6 mm, or 4.9 mm for Buckfast (1st or 2nd pos., see image)
- V2 – Rear door installed and secured with the rubber stopper (5.0 mm openings)

4 - Transparent capture box

Install the capture box once the drones (male bees) have left the hive.





Note: the lower landing board has been intentionally removed to make the adjustment settings easier to understand

Seasonal recommendations: this is the peak of the Asian hornet predation season. At the front, the fixed opening disrupts the hornets' hovering flight and guides them into the capture box. At the rear, reducing the opening to 4.6 or 4.9 mm protects the worker bees (4.9 mm for Buckfast colonies). At this time of year, drones are naturally expelled from the colony by the workers and no longer need to pass through, but they may accumulate behind the doors. Check the entrance to the beehive protection device regularly and remove any dead insects or accumulated drones if necessary. Notes: 1. If Asian hornet pressure becomes critical, prioritise the health of the colony and install the capture box, even if this means sacrificing a few drones (they will eventually be expelled from the colony anyway). 2. During periods of high temperatures, bees may form clusters outside the hive: in this case, it is best to leave the beehive protection device temporarily open to improve ventilation and reduce the temperature.

ADJUSTMENTS · OCTOBER UNTIL WINTERING: SAFETY AND WIND PROTECTION

1 - Orange front panel

- V1 – Front panel folded down
- V2 – Front panel folded down

2 - Orange front door (entrance to the beehive protection device)

Reduce the amount of light entering the front so that hornets do not escape through the front but end up in the capture box.

- V1 – Front door set to 7 mm (see image)
- V2 – Front door installed.

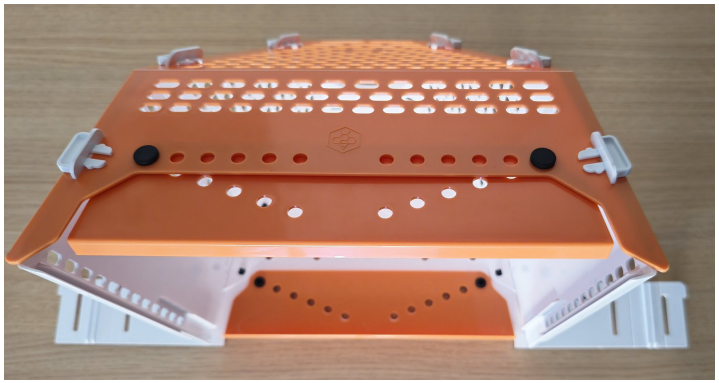
3 - Orange rear door (hive entrance)

Install once the drones (male bees) have left the colony (equivalent: white Nicot entrance reducer).

- V1 – Rear door set to 4.6 mm, or 4.9 mm for Buckfast (1st or 2nd pos., see image)
- V2 – Rear door installed and secured with the rubber stopper

4 - Transparent capture box

Install the capture box. To empty it: immerse the captured hornets in water at 80–90 °C, then remove the cone from one side of the capture box.



Note: the lower landing board has been intentionally removed to make the adjustment settings easier to understand

Seasonal recommendations: bee traffic decreases significantly. At the front, the fixed door acts as a windbreak, protecting the colony from the cold. At the rear, the 4.9 mm setting is the ideal compromise for Buckfast colonies: it allows worker bees to leave the hive during their occasional winter cleansing flights without damaging their thorax, while permanently keeping out late-season hornets, mice and shrews. Recommendation for Buckfast colonies: the 4.6 mm setting, which corresponds to the former green Nicot entrance reducer, has been deliberately omitted from this guide because it is too narrow for Buckfast bees and may block or injure them.

MAINTENANCE OF THE BEEHIVE PROTECTION DEVICE

Using the beehive protection device during the season:

- **Check the entrance to the beehive protection device regularly** and remove, if necessary, any accumulated dead bees or drones, especially after installing the anti-hornet doors. This check is particularly important because the beehive protection device partially obscures the hive entrance. This is why we recommend an installation using eye screws and L-shaped screws for quick fitting and removal.

To keep the plastic in perfect condition season after season, simply follow these rules:

- **Use a blunt tool:** use a butter knife with a rounded tip or a wide flat-blade screwdriver. Never use a sharp kitchen knife, as it may scratch or damage the plastic.
- **Insert the tool flat:** slide the blade flat along the landing board of the hive, beneath the orange rear door. Gently twist the tool to lift the orange door vertically and break the propolis seal. The black rubber stopper will simply compress and slide out of the opening without damaging friction.
- **Avoid adjusting in cold weather:** at low temperatures, the plastic becomes brittle. We recommend adjusting the entrance reducers in summer or autumn (ideally between July and October), when the plastic retains its natural flexibility. To extend its lifespan, it is best to remove the beehive protection device at the end of the season and store it in a place where the temperature does not drop below 0 °C.

WINTERING: REMOVE THE BEEHIVE PROTECTION DEVICE COMPLETELY

Removing the beehive protection device during winter makes oxalic acid trickling treatments easier to carry out and prevents dead winter bees from accumulating behind the rear door and completely blocking the hive entrance.

The ABS plastic used for the beehive protection devices becomes brittle when exposed to very low temperatures. Handle them with care in cold weather and, if possible, store them in a temperate location during winter. **Avoid freezing temperatures and frost at all costs.**

The design also allows for compact storage: the beehive protection devices can be nested inside one another after removing the front doors (V2) and the bottom board (V1 and V2).

Warning: towards the end of the season, feeding syrup becomes particularly attractive to Asian hornets due to the shortage of natural nectar sources. Make sure your hives are properly sealed and, if in doubt, do not hesitate to completely close the entrances of weaker colonies, as Asian hornets will preferentially target them.