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> verybarista IMS Precision 16-18g Filter Basket (DL2TH26E) Instruction Manual for Delonghi La Specialista

verybarista DL2TH26E

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Model: DL2TH26E

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides comprehensive instructions for the proper use and maintenance of your verybarista IMS Precision 16-18g Filter Basket (DL2TH26E). Designed for optimal espresso extraction, this high-quality stainless steel basket is compatible with various 51mm group head portafilters, including Delonghi, Sage, and Breville models. Adhering to these guidelines will ensure consistent performance and longevity of your filter basket.



Figure 1: IMS Precision 16-18g Filter Basket (DL2TH26E)

SETUP

Before first use, ensure the filter basket is clean. This IMS Precision filter basket is designed for 51mm group head portafilters. For DeLonghi Dedica and other compatible models, it may be necessary to remove the plastic bottom insert from your existing portafilter to ensure the basket fits correctly and allows for proper tamping and extraction.



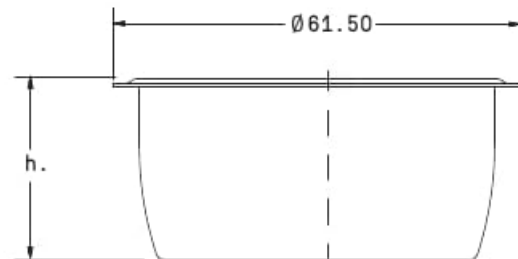
DL2TH22E
DL2TH24E
DL2TH26E
DL3TH32E

Cylindrical filter with a narrowing at the base. This shape creates a compact coffee pod which allows the coffee to get a better extraction and space for the coffee volume.

CODE	HEIGHT	CAPACITY		
		DARK	MEDIUM	LIGHT
DL2TH22E	h. 22 mm	11/13.5 gr.	11.5/14 gr.	12/14.5 gr.
DL2TH24E	h. 24 mm	13/16 gr.	14/16.5 gr.	15/17.5 gr.
DL2TH26E	h. 26 mm	15/19 gr.	15.5/19.5 gr.	15.5/20 gr.
DL3TH32E	h. 32 mm	19/24 gr.	20/25 gr.	20/26 gr.

All tests about the capacity of the filters were made using:

- Dark roasted coffee: 80% Arabica 20% Robusta blend
- Medium roasted coffee: 100% Arabica
- Light roasted coffee: Ethiopia single origin



FOR TAMPER 51 mm

BORDER: Ø 61.5 mm

BODY: Ø 51.5 mm INTERNAL

RIDGE: ridgeless

NUMBER OF HOLES: 499 E pattern in Ø 40 mm

Figure 2: IMS Filter Basket Dimensions and Capacity Chart

Refer to the diagram above for detailed dimensions and capacity information for different basket models. The DL2TH26E model has a height of 26mm and is suitable for 16-18 grams of coffee.

Installation into Portafilter

1. Ensure your portafilter is clean and free of old coffee grounds.
2. If applicable, carefully remove any plastic insert from the bottom of your portafilter. This is crucial for the IMS basket to sit flush and allow for proper extraction.
3. Place the IMS Precision Filter Basket into the portafilter. It should fit snugly.
4. Confirm the basket is securely seated and does not wobble.

Video: This video demonstrates the installation and use of IMS Precision baskets with Delonghi machines, highlighting their compatibility and the resulting espresso extraction.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Achieving optimal espresso extraction requires attention to detail in dosing, grinding, and tamping.

Dosing

- For the DL2TH26E basket, a dose of 16-18 grams of coffee is recommended. Adjust based on your coffee beans and desired shot characteristics.
- Use a precise coffee scale to measure your dose for consistency.

Grinding

- The IMS Precision basket performs best with a consistent, fine espresso grind.
- Adjust your grinder to achieve a grind size that allows for an extraction time of approximately 25-30 seconds for a double shot (around 30-40ml).

Tamping

- Use a 51mm tamper to evenly compress the coffee grounds in the basket.
- Apply firm, even pressure to create a level and compact puck. Avoid over-tamping, which can lead to channeling.

Extraction

1. Insert the loaded portafilter into your espresso machine's group head and lock it securely.
2. Initiate the espresso extraction. Observe the flow from the bottom of the basket. Ideally, it should start as a few drops, then form a steady, mouse-tail-like stream.
3. Stop the extraction once the desired volume or weight of espresso is achieved, typically around 25-30 seconds.



Figure 3: Bottom view of the IMS Precision Filter Basket, highlighting the precision holes.

MAINTENANCE

Regular cleaning is essential to maintain the performance and hygiene of your IMS Precision Filter Basket.

Daily Cleaning

- After each use, knock out the spent coffee puck.
- Rinse the basket thoroughly under hot water to remove any remaining coffee grounds and oils.
- Wipe the basket dry with a clean cloth to prevent water spots and mineral buildup.

Deep Cleaning (Weekly/Bi-weekly)

- Soak the filter basket in a solution of warm water and a small amount of espresso machine cleaning detergent (e.g., Cafiza) for 15-30 minutes.
- Use a soft brush to gently scrub the inside and outside of the basket, paying attention to the holes to ensure they are clear.
- Rinse thoroughly under running water to remove all detergent residue.
- Ensure no cleaning solution remains, as it can affect the taste of your espresso.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Here are some common issues and their potential solutions:

Basket Gets Stuck in Group Head

- **Issue:** The basket remains in the group head when removing the portafilter.
- **Solution:** This can sometimes occur due to a tight fit or suction. Ensure the portafilter is fully locked into the group head before brewing. If the issue persists, check the condition of your group head gasket; a worn gasket can contribute to this.

Tamper Does Not Fit Properly

- **Issue:** Your 51mm tamper gets stuck or does not create a level puck.
- **Solution:** While the basket is designed for 51mm tampers, some tampers may have slight variations or the basket's internal tapering might cause issues. Ensure your tamper is precisely 51mm. If the tamper gets stuck near the top, it might be due to the basket's design. Consider trying a different 51mm tamper or ensuring your tamping technique is perfectly vertical.

Poor Espresso Extraction (Channeling, Uneven Flow)

- **Issue:** Espresso flows too quickly, unevenly, or sprays from the bottom of the basket.
- **Solution:** This is often related to grind size and puck preparation.
 - **Grind too coarse:** Adjust your grinder to a finer setting.
 - **Uneven distribution:** Ensure coffee grounds are evenly distributed in the basket before tamping. Use a WDT tool if necessary.
 - **Uneven tamping:** Apply consistent and level pressure across the entire puck.
 - **Dose:** Ensure you are using the recommended dose for the basket (16-18g for DL2TH26E).

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model	DL2TH26E
Material	Stainless AISI 304 steel
Capacity (Double Espresso)	16-18 grams (height 26mm)
Hole Count	499 holes
Bottom Type	Flat Bottom
Body Diameter	Ø 51.5 mm (for Ø 51 mm tamper)
Compatibility	Delonghi, Sage, Breville 51mm group head portafilters (may require plastic bottom removal for some models)
Item Weight	1.06 ounces

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Specific warranty details for the verybarista IMS Precision Filter Basket (DL2TH26E) are not provided in this document. For information regarding warranty coverage, returns, or technical support, please refer to the official verybarista website or contact their customer service directly. Always retain your proof of purchase for any warranty claims.