

Grow Vegetables in Containers

What to grow?

- Bush varieties of squash & cucumbers.
- Carrots - especially shorter varieties, beets, and turnips
- Lettuce, spinach, kale & swiss chard
- Radish, kohlrabi, & cabbage (during cooler months—spring and fall)
- Peas & Beans - if you choose pole varieties, make sure your container is deep enough to accommodate a trellis system. 18"-20" deep or deeper is recommended to support climbing plants and the trellis.
- Herbs - Tip: mint is very vigorous. Plant mint in its own pot or keep in a plastic container planted among your other plants. See first image below.
- Tomatoes & Peppers - Patio-type varieties are best but others will do fine. Tomatoes will need a large cage or trellis system. Minimum 5 gal container is recommended for tomatoes.
- Strawberries - Choose the day neutral varieties & grow them as annuals.

Make it fun!

- Add to your salads edible flowers like Pansies, Violas, Nasturtiums and Borage. The flowers will help enhance pollination of your crops as well.
- Combine plants with different colors & texture in one container to increase visual interest.

Early spring combination of Purple Cabbage, Pansies, Viola, and Mint (the mint is in its own plastic pot) planted in the larger container.



Try fabric grow bags that have improved aeration, superior drainage, and enables a healthy root systems.



Herbs grown in a window box right out the kitchen window!



- While the evenings remain cool, continue replanting quick crops like spinach & radishes.
- Add your favorite flowers to the mix or flowers showing your favorite color.

The Basics

- You will need **full sun**. That is at least 6-hours of direct sunlight a day. Ex: Between 8am and 4pm.
- Use a **high quality, well drained potting mix**. Don't skimp! You're growing your own food.
- **Fertilize**. Plants produce the best when they get fed too. If you are using a water-soluble fertilizer you will need to apply it just about every time you water.
- **Provide adequate water**. Because you're growing in containers plants will use more water than in the garden. If it's hot and dry you will likely need to water every day. Allow the soil in the pots to dry out between watering.
- Make sure your container has **adequate drainage**. The water will need to run out the bottom of the pot.
- **Mulch the soil** surface around your plants. This will help conserve moisture.
- **You don't need special seeds**. Most seed companies produce the varieties you will be looking for.
- **Follow the directions** on the seed packets for spacing. Be careful not to crowd your plants.



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Keep in touch!

