

Gardening in a Bucket!



Growing your own food without the benefit of yard space is fun and easy!

Enjoy growing your own fresh vegetables this summer without a backyard! All you need is a container (such as a 5 gallon bucket), soil, vegetable seeds and/or plants and a sunny location indoors or out (though outside is preferred). You can grow one vegetable plant or a combination of tomato, pepper, squash and pole beans in a five gallon bucket. It may seem like this is too many plants for one bucket, but these different plants have different growing habits and grow to different sizes.

STEPS TO A SUCCESSFUL BUCKET GARDEN

1. Select a bucket that has **not** had any toxic material in it such as building/painting materials or cleaners/chemicals. Drill or nail several holes into the bottom of the bucket or put rocks in the bottom few inches of the bucket to allow for drainage.
2. Fill your bucket with soil. If you are sure of the quality of the soil in your yard you can use that, but a good blended potting soil is rich in nutrients and will work better.
3. Select the plants you want in your bucket. Below are some planting tips for each plant type.

TOMATOES: Cherry, patio or bush varieties work the best. Place your tomato plant in the center of the bucket and stake it. Drive a four foot pole several inches into the soil about 3" away from the stem. Tie the plant loosely to the pole with some type of cloth. One tomato plant per bucket!!!

CUCUMBERS/MELONS/SQUASH: Plant the seeds or plants in the front of your bucket and train them to grow over the side onto your porch, steps, deck or windowsill.

PEPPERS: Place these bush-like plants on either side of the tomato plant.

POLE BEANS: Plant seeds to the rear of the bucket and train the vines to grow up a string tied to the edge of the bucket.

4. Decide where to place your bucket. When you are picking a place, remember that your bucket will need lots of sunshine and water. Try to find a secure place so the bucket cannot be knocked over.

HAPPY GROWING!!



*Getting to the
Root of the
Problem*

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