



Shopping List

Large pot
Rich potting soil
Compost
Fertilizer
Gravel or crocks
Assorted vegetable seeds
or transplants

Even gardeners with limited gardening space can enjoy growing vegetables in containers. Vegetables that are well suited to container growing include lettuce, various herbs, leeks and onions, compact varieties of tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, and eggplants.

Vegetables require at least 6-8" of soil depth in order to form a healthy root system, so choose your container accordingly. Half whiskey barrels and bushel baskets work well. If you want something more ornamental, use large clay or decorative plastic pots. Regardless of the type of container, make sure it has drainage holes.

A well-drained soil is a must for all types of vegetables, so cover the bottom of the container with crock or coarse gravel. This keeps the plants from getting "wet feet."



Use water retentive soil rich in organic matter. Select a high quality potting mix, and add one part compost per two parts potting mix. Adding fertilizer to the top 4-5" of soil before planting will give your transplants and seedlings a boost.

After you fill the container with the potting soil, directly sow seeds of quick growing vegetables like lettuce. Transplant seedlings of larger, slower growing vegetables like tomatoes and peppers.

Vegetables require ample moisture, especially those grown in containers. Water as needed during the summer; usually at least once a day. When you apply water be sure to thoroughly drench the potting soil. The container should be placed in a spot that gets at least six hours of sunlight a day.