



ROLL 'N' GROW

Some plant seeds—such as lettuce, radish, and carrot—are so tiny that they can easily fall from your fingers and get lost. A couple of weeks later, you might find the plants sprouting where you didn't want them. To make sure that your tiniest vegetable or flower seeds grow in straight rows where you want them, make a toilet paper seed strip first.

YOU WILL NEED:

toilet paper

2 tablespoons all-purpose flour

water

small paintbrush

ruler

seeds

1. Decide how long you want your row of plants to be.
2. Tear off enough toilet paper to fit in your row.
3. Put the flour into a small container or bowl and add a few drops of water. Stir to make a paste, adding more water, a drop or two at a time, as needed. (Make more paste, if you run out.)

4. Read your seed packet to see how far apart the seeds should be planted.
5. Using the paintbrush, make a row of paste “dots” on the toilet paper. Use a ruler as a guide to space the dots. You can make one row of dots down the middle of the toilet paper or make two rows about an inch from each edge. Add one or two seeds to each dot of paste.
6. When the paste is dry, carefully roll up the seed strip, bring it out to your garden, and lay it down, seed side up.
7. Read the seed packet to see how much dirt should cover the seeds and cover the seed strip.
8. Water the seeds with a gentle sprinkle now. Repeat as needed when the soil is dry.

The toilet paper will disintegrate in about a week. Your plants should sprout soon after that, perfectly spaced.



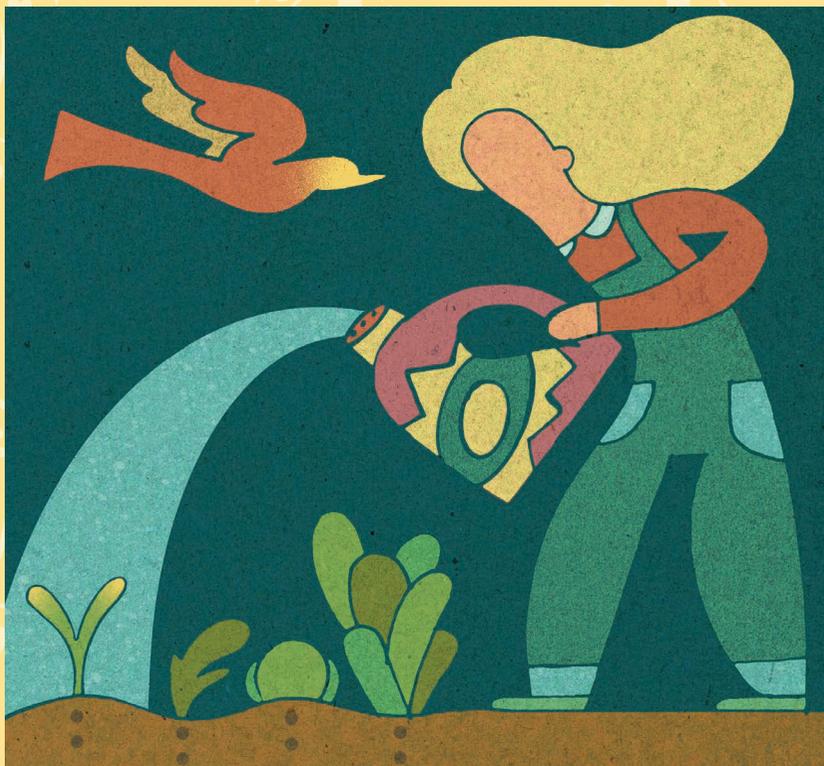
DO-IT-YOURSELF WATERING JUG

You can make a great watering “can” from an empty, clean, widemouth plastic jug or laundry detergent jug with a handle.

YOU WILL NEED:

**WIDEMOUTH PLASTIC JUG, WITH TOP
HOUSEHOLD DRILL**

1. Wash and rinse the jug thoroughly.
2. With an adult’s help, drill holes in the widemouth top. This is the waterspout, so make the holes large enough that water will flow out easily but not so big that water will pour out.
3. With an adult’s help, drill a slightly bigger air-release hole above the jug’s handle.
4. Fill the jug with water, twist the top on it, and sprinkle your seeds and plants.



SACK-OF-SOIL GARDEN

The easiest garden that you can try is one that you grow in a bag of soil. A pot is not needed, but you must have a spot that is sunny most of the day. Garden soil can be purchased at a garden supply store.

Try lettuce, radish, or bean seeds; tomato, pepper, or strawberry plants; or pansies, zinnias, or marigolds.

YOU WILL NEED:

**1 wheelbarrow or pull wagon (optional)
1 bag (20 lbs.) garden soil mixed with compost
seeds or plant seedlings**

1. If you have a wheelbarrow, place the bag into it and lay the bag of soil flat. If not using a wheelbarrow, place the bag on the ground.
2. Poke a few holes in the top surface of the bag. These will allow water to drain out. Roll the bag over.
3. Cut a few holes in the new top surface for seeds or plants.
4. Read the seed packet and plant the seeds at the proper depth in the soil. If planting seedlings, create a space in the soil, set the plant into it, and gently tamp down the soil around it.
5. Water gently and as often as you would a garden bed.
6. Place the wheelbarrow in the sunlight for at least 6 hours a day. Do not allow a heavy rain to collect in the wheelbarrow, or the plants could drown.