

## Container Gardening

Container gardening is an ideal way to introduce a child to the joys of gardening. All you need are some large pots, sunshine and water and you can have a bountiful harvest right on your deck or patio.

### Step 1

Use the largest pots that you can find for your container vegetable garden, at least 12 inches in diameter.

### Step 2

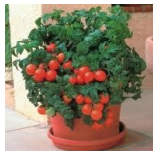
Choose vegetable varieties that grow well in pots. Although most vegetables can be grown in containers, tomatoes, squash, beans, carrots, eggplant, radishes, lettuce and peppers are the most common.

### Step 3

Pour the potting mix into the pot, leaving room for your plant so that, when planted, it will sit 1 inch below the rim of the pot. An exception is tomatoes—in that case, place the stem of the plant at least 2 inches into the soil.

### Step 4

Water the plant when the first inch of soil is dry to a finger poked into it. Water deeply, until the water runs out of the bottom of the pot.



### Step 5

Provide adequate sunshine for your vegetables. Most types of vegetables need a full day of sun. Leafy vegetables such as lettuce can tolerate partial shade.

### Step 6

Fertilize your plants for the first time two weeks after planting and then every two weeks after that. Use fish emulsion or other organic fertilizer, according to the package directions.

### Step 7

Water your plants every day or every other day in hot weather. Plants in pots need to be watered more often than plants in the ground.

