

## Why Container Gardening Is The Best Way to Grow Plants

With how beneficial container gardening can be, it's a wonder that so few people are using it. Even though its popularity has improved over the few decades, other methods are still more popular among gardeners. Using containers makes gardening easily accessible to nearly anyone; handicapped individuals often find that keeping their plants in pots simplifies placing them within reach. Those who are bound to their wheelchairs can put the pots on a lower table where they can be easily reached. Those who have gotten too old to work in a traditional garden may discover that container gardening can help them enjoy their old hobby once more. Container gardening can even be easier on children, who enjoy not having to weed, rake, and hoe the ground--and with a container, they don't have to wait for an adult to till the soil for them. The ease with which container gardens may be moved is another major benefit for you. If bad weather arises with your plants outdoors, you can easily bring them inside for protection. If your garden was not planned well or an unanticipated change arises and your plants are receiving more sun or shade than they should, moving them to a better place is a cinch. And you can even move them arbitrarily if you think they will look better somewhere else. Common soil tends to have diseases, and so plants grown in a traditional manner tend to acquire those more easily than plants which are grown in containers. It is possible for a container garden to get diseases, but because potting soil is often free of organisms that cause disease, it is far less likely. Feeding the plants in your container garden is also easier. It's quite simple to make sure that your fertilizer is used by your plants when it is all confined to such a small area. Fertilizing plants kept in a larger area risks that the fertilizer is drained away or absorbed by other plants. This is unlikely to happen in a container. Using such a small area, on the other hand, typically leads to the fertilizer washing more quickly out from the soil. Therefore, you generally need to fertilize on a more frequent basis than with a traditional garden. Regardless, the benefit of using a container is that you guarantee that the plants acquire more fertilizer before it washes out than if you used the same plants and fertilizer in the ground. Planting in a container allows you to extend the growing season of the plants as well. If you carefully insulate the pots using blankets or other such material, you can ensure that the soil stays warm, so you can plant early, in a cold frame or indoors, and then move them outside to a larger pot when they're ready. Not only can you plant early, you can keep plants alive and growing past the normal season, whether using insulation through the first frost, or by bringing them inside. Container gardening also tends to save a lot of space. If you live in an apartment or home without any yard space, container gardening lets you keep a garden on your porch or patio, and even inside. A lot of people keep small container gardens on a windowsill, in a spare bedroom or in a sunroom. And if you want, you can even grow your plants in your closet if you use a grow light! Using pots for your plants simplifies having a garden when you lack the room needed for traditional gardening.

### About the Author

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