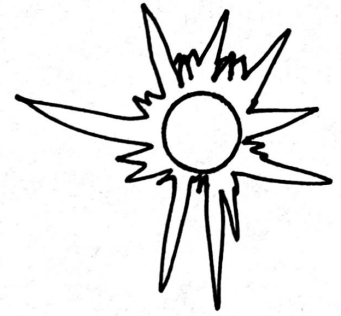


Basics of CONTAINER GARDENS

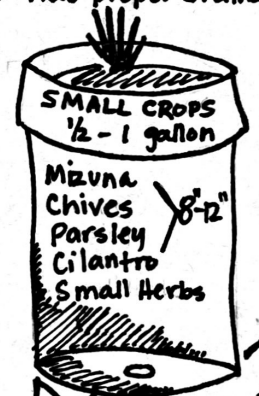
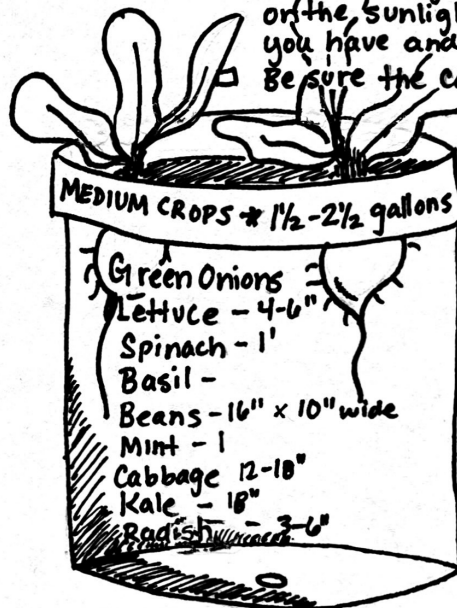
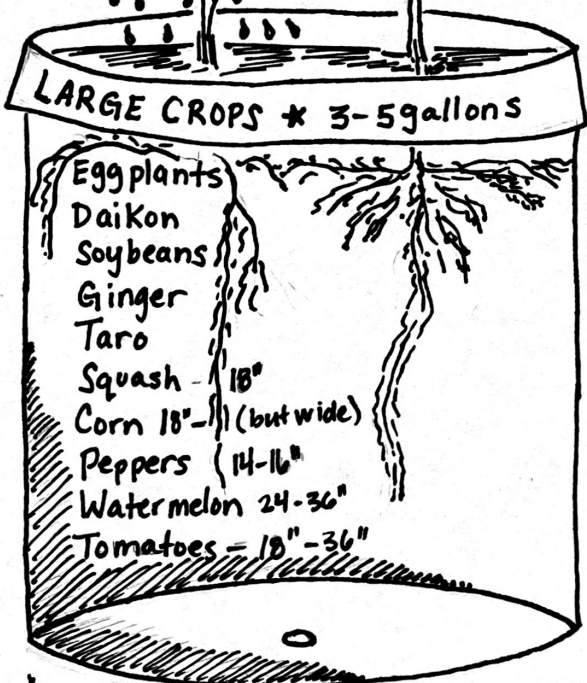
Benefits of Container Gardens

- + You can have a garden anywhere!
- + Minimize Pests and control disease
- + Control water usage
- + Freedom to be creative and artistic!



Selecting a Container

- How much sunlight does the area get?
- Select what you want to plant based on the sunlight and the amount of space you have and the mature plant needs.
- Be sure the container has proper drainage.



TIP: clip flowers from herbs such as basil and parsley to encourage more leaf growth!

Preparing your soil

- * Soil prep is important since that is the only place your plant gets any nutrients.
- * Soil should hold moisture and nutrients while allowing drainage and oxygen to get to the roots.

BASIC SOIL RECIPE

- 1/3 part soil
- 1/3 part compost or worm castings
- 1/3 part perlite or vermiculite

FERTILIZER CHEATSHEET

- N • Nitrogen • Leaf growth
- P • Phosphorus • Root, flower, fruit growth
- K • Potassium • overall plant functions

Watering Tips

- * Over or under watering your plants can be detrimental to their health.
- * Check soil to determine if plants need to be watered.
- * Know your plants - most plants prefer moist but not wet soil. Some prefer to dry out between waterings. Each plant is different.
- * Water in the morning when plant roots are most receptive to absorbing water. Plants left too moist are more susceptible to disease and mildew.
- * Water the soil NOT the leaves.
- * Water deep. Watch water come from the bottom of the container but not overflowing as that depletes nutrients from the soil.

Planting

- * Starting from seed, place 2-3 seeds the allotted distance apart. Thin as needed.
 - Often, it will be one per container.
- Water, watch, wait and Enjoy!