

[Another eBookWholesaler Publication](#)



Proudly brought to you by

**Lewis Philips signature books**

[Email](#)

## **Recommended Resources**

- [Web Site Hosting Service](#)
- [Internet Marketing](#)
- [Affiliate Program](#)

## Please Read This **First**

### *Terms of Use*

**No alteration by anyone to the appearance, format or content of this ebook as supplied by eBookwholesaler is allowed.** This Electronic book is Copyright © 2013 eBookwholesaler. All rights are reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted by any means; electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without written permission from the copyright holder(s).

You must not distribute any part of this ebook in any way. eBookwholesaler Members are the sole distributors and must abide by the [eBookwholesaler page for Terms of Use](#). No-one may offer or distribute this book through eBay or any type of auction. This book is published by eBookwholesaler and no-one else may claim to be the publisher.

### *Disclaimer*

The advice contained in this material might not be suitable for everyone. The author got information from sources believed to be reliable and from personal experience, but does not imply nor offer any guarantee of accuracy.

The author, publisher and distributors never give legal, accounting, medical or any other type of professional advice. The reader must always seek those services from competent professionals that can review their own particular circumstances.

The author, publisher and distributors particularly disclaim any liability, loss, or risk taken by individuals who act on the information here. All readers must accept full responsibility for their use of this material.

All pictures used in this book are for illustration only. No link or endorsement between the people pictured and the book, author or publisher is implied and should not be assumed. All pictures must not be used for anything else without the rights holder's prior written permission.

Images © 2013 Jupiter Images Corporation, a Getty Images company.

## Contents

<b>Please Read This First .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<i>Terms of Use .....</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Disclaimer .....</i>	<i>2</i>
<b>Contents .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>About the Author .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Introduction.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>How Easy is Container Gardening? .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Who Can't Have a Container Garden? .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Benefits of the Daily Routine .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Health and Safety.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<i>Oh, My Back!.....</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Dangerous Mixtures .....</i>	<i>10</i>
<b>Choosing Containers.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Planning Your First Garden .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Setting Up Your First Garden .....</b>	<b>13</b>
<i>Growing Medium .....</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Compost and Compost Tea.....</i>	<i>13</i>
<b>Setting out Your new Plants.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Plants or Seeds?.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>How Many Plants in a Container? .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Important Growth Factors.....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Alternative Containers .....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Using Seeds in Your Containers .....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Getting Help .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Tools for Your Garden .....</b>	<b>23</b>

**Use a Compost System..... 25**

**Important Accessories ..... 26**

    Your Gardening Clothes.....26

**Perennials or Annuals?..... 28**

**Growing Tomatoes in Containers..... 29**

**Raised Beds..... 30**

**Kids and Containers ..... 32**

## About the Author

Ann Muswell missed having a garden in the years since she started living in a small apartment.

Then, someone gave her a few herbs in a window box when they heard she was a keen cook.

She was surprised how well they grew with little care from her.

Ann started growing some tiny tomatoes and strawberries. More containers and a wider variety of plants were brought in over time.

She was an enthusiastic gardener again!

She wrote this book to show how easy container gardening can be for just about everyone.

Ann said, "I am no expert but the results have been great."

"Anyone who wants a few decorative plants, herbs or vegetables which are easy to set up and maintain will find these tips very helpful."

"Container gardening can help you and your family have a healthier environment, fresh food, and it is all easy to do!"

As the pace of our lives speeds up, this hobby is a great help to keep us calm and healthy.

I keep it simple so anyone can start to enjoy the benefits with minimum cost and effort.

## Introduction

Container gardens are great for today's smaller homes and faster way of life. My book will share some ways that almost anyone can have a garden without much space, time, or cost. My approach is a little different than many other writers about gardening.

I will take you through a number of steps to make your container garden.

I want you to understand how the various parts fit together.

Few hobbies have so many potential benefits.

People of all ages can enjoy it.

Whatever type of plants you most enjoy, it's probable they can be successfully grown in containers.

New gardeners will find these ideas easy and affordable.

Experienced gardeners regularly experiment with new varieties and species and provide any special conditions at much lower cost than in the regular garden.

Container gardening gives you a chance to share your knowledge with your kids while they learn gardening the easy way!

We can put the containers where it suits the plants and add plastic or net covers to modify the conditions without affecting the rest of our environment.

Sensitive plants can be relocated to suit different weather conditions.

Containers can help us to grow plants which are generally not suitable for our climate region. Of course, that takes more effort and some expense, but some will decide it's worth it!

You might look at producing really personal gifts by giving plants you grow instead of store-bought items.

Join one of the most active and generous hobby groups in the world – gardeners!

Share what you produce. Grow as much or as little as you want.

## How Easy is Container Gardening?

Everyone can use containers to start or improve their own garden.



The traditional window-box is just the start.

People are growing their plants in all kinds of containers and many different places.

This is the low-cost way to try new varieties without taking up a section of your regular garden, if you have one.

Protecting plants in a regular garden can be difficult unless you plan in advance to provide shelter from larger plants, temporary shelters or fencing. And all that is sometimes not enough.

With containers, you can move the plants to another area quickly or provide cheap temporary covers.

Your costs to set up your first containers are low.

Even when something does not produce to your expectations, you can use the experience to quickly start again with greater chance of success.

Most people who have physical limitations can handle a container garden with some of their favorite plants. Often, the involvement in this widely



popular activity improves their attitude and encourages more social activity as well. That can help with their general health over time.

My cousin has the easiest container garden of all. It is a solitary cactus in a small pot. He said it's a start!

## Who Can't Have a Container Garden?

I think most people can have a successful container garden.

But, some people might not want to make the necessary changes in their life-style to accommodate it.

All container gardens require daily attention. If you don't have someone in your household who can check the plants and give them a little water or other attention when you are away, that could reduce the potential for success.

If you are not fairly well organized and can't ensure the attention the plants need and never run out of their fertilizer, maybe try something else.

Of course, the goal of a new garden could help you to become more organized.

You also need to be patient and realistic about the results you get.

There are no guarantees of perfect results, but reading this book and following the information will give you a great start.

Even if you have a regular outdoor garden, you can use containers for some plants to get better results.

Containers are a simple way to add more variety to what you grow, or fill smaller areas in your home with color, sweet smells and even snacks!



## **Benefits of the Daily Routine**

If you have just a few containers, you probably won't think the daily maintenance is much of a problem even when you go away and arrange for someone to do it for you.

But, if your collection of containers is large and varied, you might think it an imposition.

I thought that after a while but then I found that I benefitted from the routine as much as my lovely plants.

The daily round was an interlude which ensured I got a complete break from the more involved tasks which took up large parts of each day.

I found that I was looking forward to the round and felt like taking longer with it than I needed to.

As I spent more time with them, my doctor reported my stress level was being reduced. That improved the atmosphere in our home and also in my dealings with other people.

Some vague aches and frequent colds reduced, bringing less use of over-the-counter medicines.

That helped me write more and also gave me a little extra money to spend on my garden or anything else I wanted to.

## Health and Safety

Gardening is a healthy hobby and business but there are risks in everything.

### *Oh, My Back!*

Many gardeners develop back problems by bending or lifting the wrong way. Check with your doctor for leaflets about the correct way to lift and bend before a problem develops.

If you have to lift a large or heavy item, use a trolley or get someone to help you.

You can also reduce the risk by keeping the weight of large pots down by filling the lowest third of the pot with lighter material.

Use a material which will not affect your plants or the pot's drainage.

Use any device which helps you enjoy your gardening and reduces potential risks. Some people feel uncomfortable about using mats, kneeling supports or even colored gloves!

But, these items are protecting your health so you can continue your hobby with less risk of injury.

Anyone who doesn't use them is taking unnecessary risks!

### *Dangerous Mixtures*

You might use mixtures which contain poisons or other unhealthy substances. Some plants are also hazardous to touch or consume.

Horse manure and most composts may have diseases or other hazards in them. Snail baits are a common cause of pet poisoning. My vet said that some which are claimed to be safe have caused some sickness in animals.

The risks are real enough to always wear gloves and clothing which you don't use for anything else when doing your gardening.

## Choosing Containers

First, you must choose a suitable container for each type of plant which you will grow.



Sticking with **ceramic** pots could be a good idea at first. They must have some drainage holes but not too many or you have to keep adding water to the growing medium.

**Plastic** or **metal** containers are low-cost but not very plant-friendly. They store heat in warm weather which make the plants uncomfortable or worse.

Containers don't have to be a traditional type if you have others with suitable qualities and which won't introduce any problems.

Avoid using small containers which are barely wider than the likely width of the mature plant. A suitable pot will be about three times as wide as that.

The plant needs that amount of space to spread its roots and get enough nutrients.

Larger containers are usually better if you have the space, but make sure that you will be able to move it around if there is a need sometime.

If you are unsure about the size of the pot to get, it's better to get the bigger size. When the pot has some "spare room" your plants can develop a larger and more vigorous root system to gather food and moisture as well as provide better support for the whole plant.

Small pots have limited uses. If that pot is really too large for your present project, you will have something that will fit it soon enough while the smaller one just sits empty in your garage.

If you get some used containers, they need to be thoroughly cleaned. If the material is porous, you may not be able to get all traces of old matter out. That might bring weeds or other problems.

## Planning Your First Garden

*Plan first or fail later.*

Planning may seem boring and unnecessary when you're anxious to get going with your new garden.

But, planning will save you frustration, time, and unnecessary expense.

Don't buy more plants or supplies than you need or can use.

You will probably find that your views change as you watch the progress of your first plant purchases.

If you decide to change the brand or type of fertilizer (for instance) which you bought, the large quantity of the earlier one which is still in your shed won't seem such a bargain as it did.

We used to buy a larger quantity of seeds than we needed for that year to take advantage of bulk discounts.

But, the distributors are fiddling with many of the varieties they offer so that they have a shorter shelf life than before.

Always check the label or with more knowledgeable gardeners about whether the seeds in the crops you produce will grow into plants. Many are not able to produce true to type.

I try to stay with natural seed suppliers who avoid these modifications. They may be a bit harder to find and more expensive, but I know exactly what I will get.

## Setting Up Your First Garden

You need to plan your first container garden, even when you have experience with larger gardens.

There are some important differences.

One is that a plant would normally get nutrients and water by pushing its roots farther into the soil around it in a garden bed.

But, the plant in a pot only has access to what is available there.

You are responsible for replacing those supplies and keeping them at the right levels.

### *Growing Medium*

Another important factor is the growing medium.

Using old soil will limit the plants early growth because the nutrient level will be low. Previous plants will have removed most of that.

There is also a chance that some disease or bugs may remain in the soil to infect your new plants!

A potting mix prepared by a local nursery is an ideal choice. The nursery will use good ingredients to protect its reputation.

The mixture will contain what the nursery knows is best for your local conditions.

This may see an expensive option but it is a sort of insurance to get your plants through the early, risky growth stage.

### *Compost and Compost Tea*

If you have the space and energy, make your own compost from garden and kitchen waste. It has proven benefits for you and also the wider community because you put less into rapidly-filling landfill.

Compost tea is produced by steeping some of your mature compost with water.

The liquid contains many beneficial ingredients which may work better when sprayed onto the leaves of your plants instead of buried with the regular

compost.

Some of the claims for compost tea are not confirmed independently at this time. But, keep watch on the matter. Compost tea is not as good when sprayed on the soil. Actual compost delivers the nutrients and also improves the soil structure. Now there are reports that, unless compost tea has been properly aerated, there is a risk that it may be contaminated with harmful bacteria.

## Setting out Your new Plants

When you are putting your plants into their containers, this method will help



you keep everything on track for a good result.

Put your plants nearby where they won't fall and be damaged.

Start with a quality potting mix. It's false economy to use cheap mixtures and you risk your whole investment in the plants.

Put enough mixture into the container to reach just over half-way up the pot.

Mix in some quality slow-release fertilizer for the plants roots to find.

That will give them food over time but you should also provide some quick-release fertilizer, such as a fish-based mixture, regularly for their short-term needs.

Apply some water into the top level of the growing mix. Too much water could make the mixture harden or affect the plants.

To settle each plant into a pot, take one and gently spread the roots over the mixture.

Gently pull at the root ball to make all the dirt fall away.

If you let it stay around the roots, they will not start pushing into the medium and growth will be much slower.

Then, gently put the plant on the top of the damp mixture and spread some more mixture around it.

## **Plants or Seeds?**

Buying quality plants will cost you more. A packet of seeds will be much cheaper and provide more plants.

Growing from seeds requires more patience.

The seeds need more care and attention while they develop to the plant stage. That's part of the reason for the higher cost of the plants.

Whatever you decide to start with, try to be patient with their growth. More plants are damaged by over-eager gardeners than almost any other factor.

However careful you are, you can expect to lose some.

Don't worry about it. It's happened to every gardener through time and suppliers usually provide extra so you have a better chance of getting the number of full grown plants you planned for either way.



## How Many Plants in a Container?

Some people worry about the number of plants to put in a container. They want to know the perfect number for each size of pot.

It's better to look at the question as, "How many developed plants can the container support?"

You allow the space each plant will need at full growth when you are setting up the pot. Of course, there are exceptions.

If you put several lettuces in a pot and harvest the outer leaves from the plants as they develop, you can fit a few more young plants there.

But, when the lettuces form heads, you have to allow room for the size of the developed plant which you will harvest.

Some people cut off the head and let another head develop. That's okay because you can get two heads in the one space with little extra work.

**Design Pointers:** If you have several similar plants in a container, the effect may not be very appealing if they are all the same size.

Add one or two taller plants to give visual contrast. The tallest plant should be no higher than the pot it is in.

Allow sufficient space around that plant when you put it in the pot for the size it will become.

## Important Growth Factors

**Sunlight** is essential to support plant growth and photosynthesis.

Most plants need about 6 hours a day.

Many people are overestimating the amount of sun their region gets and this can mean that growth is less than anticipated.

An advantage of containers is that you can move many of them to take advantage of changes in your weather.

All plants need a reliable source of **water**. When the water is unavailable, the plants show distress fairly quickly.

Their leaves may yellow and their stems sag.

Check soil in your pots every day if possible. A visual check may be enough. Pressing a thumb into the top half-inch of soil is better.

If there is no water to that depth, give the plant some.

Hold off if the surface shows moisture or there is plenty of water in that layer.

If the water is visible on the surface, there may not be sufficient drainage in the pot.

Plants will suffer and even drown when this occurs.

If you use an automatic watering system, it will usually work well and reduce the need for you to check your containers every day. But, any unexpected heavy rain can combine with the regular water supply to overload the container and drown the plants.

Keep a careful check when there is heavy rain so too much water does not damage the plants.

## Alternative Containers

Pots are just one option when we are making a container garden.

From habit, I often use "container" and "pot" as if they were interchangeable.

But, there are many other things which are commonly used to contain plants.

Some of my favorites are hanging baskets, barrels, kid's wading pools, recyclable shopping bags and plastic rubbish bins. These are not all the best ideas but they are cheap and mostly easy to locate and adapt.

Hanging baskets have been used as plant containers for a long time.



The main restriction is with their size but they are easy to set up and allow us to share some of our favorite colorful plants with the people around us.

Plastic or moss baskets are most common here.

If you like the appearance and qualities of the peat moss baskets, you might want to consider those which have coconut fiber instead of using those with peat moss because of reported damage to the areas where peat has been extracted.

The coconut fiber is a waste by-product when coconuts are used to produce rope and other products. Using it reduces the amount in landfill and gives some employment to people in the area.

But, their appearance is nicer than most of the plastic ones, even if its just because they are not plastic.

The downside with the peat or coconut fiber pots is that they dry out fairly fast and the fiber degrades after a while.

You can line the baskets with a plastic liner to reduce the drying out.

Other baskets are available and you should check out the various kinds to see if they fit your style and needs.

Select plants for your baskets which suit the conditions where it will hang and

its size.

Make sure that your hook will support the combined weight of the basket and developed plants plus water and an occasional bird.

When your plants are still small, you can just water every couple of days. The plants' need for water will increase as they grow and you can water more frequently.

The best amount of water can be harder to judge with baskets. If water is held where the roots are, they may start to rot.

Windy days affect the water available to the plants. You may need to give a little more and check the level more carefully.

You also need to consider extra fertilizer through the main growing season as the design of the baskets means there is not much nutrient in the basket when you start and plants will expend that fairly quickly.

Use sharp scissors when you trim off any sickly or untidy growth. Blunt or dirty cutters can damage your plants or cause injuries.

Hanging baskets will stay popular and you will probably find new materials used for making them over time.

## Using Seeds in Your Containers

Starting plants from seed is very economical. You get a generous excess over the number of plants you'd get for the same amount of money.

But, you need to give your seedlings more care and time than the started plants would require.

Seeds are relatively delicate, so don't start the germination until the weather is warm enough.

To get the best results, you'll probably need to add some artificial light.

That can be grow lights or fluorescents.

After the seeds have sprouted, give them as much light and warmth each day as you can.

Planting your seeds at the wrong depth will reduce the sprouting rate and number of plants you get.

Check the directions from the grower about the right depth. That's usually about three times the width of the seed.

Check the amount of water available to your seeds, The common phrase, "damp but not wet" applies to your growing medium. It's easy to judge after a few tries.

With seeds that need exposure to light as part of their germination, press the mixture under them to be a bit firm, then push the seeds part way into it.

This will give them enough care and exposure at the same time.

When you are ready to plant out your seedlings, it's usual to give them about 8 days where you put them outside for longer periods.

This hardening-off time will prepare them for life outside full time.

Some delicate seeds may need more care – check with your supplier about that.

## Getting Help

Every gardener is part of a fraternity of helpful and generous hobbyists.

There are many formal organizations and I'm sure that you'll find some near you.

The advantages of joining are the combined expertise, social activities and access to experienced gardeners who generously share their knowledge.

I've helped some gardeners who are just starting with container gardening and got a lot of help from others myself.

The clubs often have experts give demonstrations and answer questions about their garden specialties.

Most clubs are genuinely friendly and questions are handled with respect, so never hold back if you have a problem needing a solution.

There are many places on the Internet where this kind of information is offered, and I've made some good contacts through the Internet.

But there is something special about the personal contact between you and the experts. And, the meetings don't have any pop-up advertisements!

Another source of help and support is the neighbor you might not have had much contact with until you found out you were both gardeners.

You may also share your excess produce or seeds which you don't need from time to time.

Another source of reliable help are the web sites and offices of Government Education and agricultural support services.

The services vary widely in the level of information they provide on domestic subjects like home gardening. Some are focused more on the needs of that state's agricultural businesses.

But, they are all worth checking out because policies change after each election.

## Tools for Your Garden

Gardeners have a few tools which are essential, however small the area they work with

But many have far more tools which they rarely use.

These are my suggestions to help you get the work done with minimum effort and expense.

Whatever tool you are thinking of buying:

**Buy quality:** A well-made tool will not injure you or the plants. It will do the job reliably for a long time.

**Avoid decoration:** Extra decoration is just a harbor where dirt and other contaminants can gather. Those tools take more cleaning and usually cost more.

**No substitutes:** Kitchen gloves are not suitable for gardening. They won't handle the rough surfaces or protect your hands from thorns or contaminants.

Scissors won't cut as neatly and may be damaged. Then, you need new scissors and secateurs.

A **trowel** is the first essential. Use it for loosening the soil and gently digging to examine the activity deeper down.

Get one which is comfortable in your hand because you'll use it a lot.

**Pruners** are essential too.

Some gardeners don't like cutting off any healthy material but this may be necessary to encourage more growth from the most productive areas of the plants.

Good pruners will make clean cuts and reduce the time the plant needs to recover.

A **watering can** is more useful for container gardens than a hose.

You can apply the frequent watering in the form of gentle spray similar to rain.

That's safe for all stages of your plants' development.

If you invest in a watering system to reduce the time needed for your daily watering, keep the can handy.

**Scoops** are needed for your different mixtures. That's safer than using a scoop in different ones.

**Trolleys** for moving large pots or bags of potting mix can cost more than you expect but they are cheap insurance for your back.

Dibbers for making depressions in your soil for new plants can be bought. But, the curved top of your garden fork will do just as well.



## Use a Compost System

All the material should be in small pieces. A **composter** can get rid of your kitchen waste and old plant material.

Some are suitable for indoor use but I think they are better outside.

If you have the space and good neighbor relations, you could set up a pile in your yard.

Many areas have regulations about how far they must be from fence lines etc. That makes the cost of a machine or commercially produced bin worthwhile to me. They are more effective and demonstrate you are doing everything the right way.

The rotating bins can give you faster results but you will still wait months for any output you can use.

Don't put too much into your composter at a time.

Always add enough dirt on the top of a pile to reduce the possibility of odors escaping.

## Important Accessories

When you are setting up your container gardening, you should invest in quality accessories.

Only use cheaper alternatives where the results won't be compromised.

Two **doormats** are needed for each door in your home. The inner one ensures you don't take any bad matter onto the carpets. Leave your shoes outside.

Stand on a mat when working on your indoor containers. If the mat has holes, put a cloth underneath.

String is just string, isn't it? Not really. Some types have advantages for your plants.

Don't use anything which is rough on the plants' surface. Cuts can let infection in or weaken the ability of the plant to continue growing.

But, soft cord may not provide enough support for the plants.

Color of your cord doesn't matter but green and brown blend best with most plants.

## Your Gardening Clothes

Every gardener needs a **hat**. Get one that is comfortable and gives protection for the back of your neck from the direct sun.

Wear it even when you are under cover if the sun is bright.

**Sunglasses** with side-panels reduce the risks where you may be affected by reflected sunlight coming through glass or off water too.

**Footwear** needs to be strong and not have crevices where dirt and other contaminants can lodge.

Clean them carefully after each use. Leaving bad material on them will make them harder to keep clean in future.

**Foam beads** you got as packing can be used under some plastic screen to fill the lowest part of large pots and hanging baskets to reduce weight of the

container. It won't interfere with the drainage either.

## **Perennials or Annuals?**

Many gardeners have many annual plants in their containers.

They like to be able to get fairly quick results and change the type of plant in some of the containers each year.

But, that is a fairly expensive way to operate and requires a larger investment of time and effort to replace the plants and clean the pots each year.

You might try extending the plant's occupation of a pot for an extra year but my experience is that the results are not usually worth it.

Perennials are available to suit your local weather conditions.

The time and money savings are not the only benefits.

Many perennials are better at handling cold conditions so you can put them outside sooner and with less hardening off.

Adding a couple of your favorite annuals can give extra visual value provided you allow enough space in the container when you set up the perennials earlier.

There are plenty of perennials which can handle shady conditions, so you have more options.

## Growing Tomatoes in Containers

Tomatoes are believed to be the most popular food plant grown in containers.

It's a great feeling to pick and eat a tomato which you grew yourself and the potted varieties are very tasty.

Starting with the miniature varieties means you can have them in really small areas.

Start with pairs of seeds in rows along your trays of compost or plant a couple in a pot. Have the level of compost about half an inch below the top of the pot's rim.

Given enough sun and warmth each day, you'll see sprouts about ten days after planting unless the medium dries out.

In a pot, remove the weaker plant when they are both about an inch high.

Transplanting at this stage is tricky.

You might use a peat pot for each seed you plant to reduce problems. Just plant the pellet and the seed into its final location. This container needs to be big enough for the fully laden plant, so make it big!

When transplanting from trays, enrich the soil with well-rotted organic material for nutrients and also some vermiculite for water retention.

A little garden lime or some crushed oyster shell below the roots of the young plants will give extra calcium to help the plants thrive.

Then you can confidently wait for great tomatoes.

## Raised Beds

Accessibility is an important factor in your enjoyment of gardening of any kind.

The success of gardening in small containers may encourage you to want greater challenges with your next gardening projects.

Raised beds are a regular gardening bed which are set up on a specially prepared area in a regular garden.

You can tend any sort of plants you want to.

You don't have to bend or stretch because the beds are just wide enough for you to reach to the center of the bed and there is a path around all sides.

The height suits you and no bending is required.

You can plant a variety of plants in the bed provided you do not use aggressive plants which would try to crowd out the others.

### Square Foot Sections

This development gives more versatility. You set wooden borders around each square foot section in the bed and plant different kind of plants in each.

The barriers protect each plants' territory from invasion by its neighbors and a good harvest is almost guaranteed.

The other advantages include water and fertilizer needs being reduced because they are delivered right where they are needed and can be adjusted for each type of plant.

Using larger plants in some sections gives protection for smaller plants in the other sections.

The varied plants encourage more birds and insects which can assist in keeping the plants healthy.

You only need the most basic tools because of the ease of access.

You can enhance the results you get by varying the types of plants in some sections each year.

That reduces the risk of build-up of diseases or predators for particular plant

types.

You can also rest some sections greatly reducing the amount of food or flowers produced.

## **Kids and Containers**

Kids can have a lot of fun with container gardening.

Only minimum supervision is needed and much of this can be provided by older children who delight in sharing their knowledge (and showing how smart they are.)

Many schools set up small plots for their students to grow food which is used in the school canteen or for the cooking classes.

If they have a container garden at home, the work is minimal and they will be motivated by their first successes to try more crops as time goes on.

Growing their own vegetables will help them get over any dislike of those types of vegetables too.

They will also be encouraged to look for more information to improve the results they get.

Of course, they may have some crops fail but they will learn that doesn't matter because they have other plants doing much better.

They learn to be responsible for the gardening themselves and see the results of good work or laziness in a more effective way than just being told.

Eating their first crop may give them a love of gardening which benefits them through their life.

And you can share this experience with them!

All this at minimum cost.



Welcome to the World of Container Gardening.

Thank you for buying my book.

I know that it will help you have more enjoyment at less cost with your own gardening and help you and your family be healthier and happier in years to come.

*Ann Muswell*

[Another eBookWholesaler Publication](#)