

## Questions You May Have About Vertical Gardening

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### What advantages does “Vertical Gardening” have over traditional gardening?

You are able to utilize less area, less water & fertilizer, less (or NO) harmful chemicals while creating higher productivity, better quality, and cleaner produce. It enables you to minimize insect damage and disease. It is much easier and more enjoyable gardening for the small or large grower.

### What is Hydroponic Gardening?

Hydroponics is simply gardening without soil. Soilless growing medias such as perlite/peat-lite or perlite/vermiculite or other combined mixes, have little of the nutrients that the plant would normally leach from the soil. In this respect, nutrient for the plant has to be added in water-soluble form. Hydroponic fertilizer is added to the water containing the minerals that the plant needs to sustain growth. In this way the plant receives consistent nutrient feeding in the **Verti-Gro** vertical stacking growing systems. A proven hydroponic fertilizer is the key to good growth.

### What can you grow in the Vertical Garden?

Almost anything, except corn and other tall growing crops. Certain root crops do not do well, or may not be efficient to grow. The best crops are leaf lettuce, herbs, spinach, tomatoes, and my personal favorite, strawberries. Many types of flowers and green plants, such as ferns, flourish in the Vertical Garden.

### Can a person with little gardening experience grow in the Vertical Garden?

Anyone can grow in a Vertical Garden. No gardening experience is necessary. You need only an open mind and the desire to eat clean delicious vegetables and fruits. Not to forget the wonderful assortment of herbs and flowers!

### Growing with the manual watering Vertical Garden stacks, how often do I have to water?

Preferably three times per day, but twice a day a day is O.K. However, once per day may be O.K. for certain crops depending on the type of “soilless” mix you choose. With pure coconut fiber or 50% coconut fiber and perlite or cyprus mulch you need to water only once per day. It is quite easy to automate an outdoor system.

### Can you grow a Vertical Garden indoors?

Yes, however you may need lights for best success. All plants need light, some more than others. Some types of lettuce and herbs grow pretty good in a southern window. Lighting for indoor systems are available.

### **Do you plant from the seed, or do you start them from a purchased potted or plug plant?**

Some plants are planted from seed directly into the corner of each pot in the vertical stacks. To turn crops around quicker without much time without production, small plants (plug plants) can be grown. This is a simple procedure and is economical to do. Sometimes you can plant two plants per plating cell when you are starting from seed. When starting from seed, you can use 50% perlite and 50% coconut fiber or just all coconut fiber.

### **How do you control bugs and disease without using harmful pesticides?**

A catalog of beneficial insects and biological mold control products is available. They are not as expensive as one might think, and the health benefit being pesticide free is great! We practice and teach **PESTICIDE FREE**, “*clean*” vertical gardening. We have an excellent “*Good Bug, Bad Bug*” laminated color photo guide for insect identification (#PP104)

### **Does the system come with everything that will be needed to grow a Vertical Garden?**

Yes, but generally it is less expensive to purchase a growing media such as a perlite (a sterile expanded volcanic sand) and vermiculite locally due to the bulk of it to ship. If perlite is not available it can be shipped for approximately six dollars per stack of containers. Generally, it can always be found in nurseries, garden centers, or at stores such as Home Depot, Home Club, Builders Square, Lowe’s, etc...

### **Can you grow organically in the Vertical Garden?**

With the right organic planting media and organic fertilizer you can grow anything organically that you can grow hydroponically in the Vertical Garden. **Verti-Gro** now has over a dozen organic fertilizers and pesticides.

### **How as a home gardener can the Vertical Garden save me money and enhance my life?**

Vegetables are becoming more and more expensive. Growing your own can save money if done in an efficient, low cost system like the Vertical Garden. Fewer vitamins and minerals are required when you are eating mineral rich foods. In all likelihood less money would be spent in medicines and medical expense. Eating well is contagious, especially when it tastes so good! It creates a hobby that saves you money, rather than costing you money. It is a hobby that keeps you happily at home. It’s a hobby that works to improve discipline, health, and mental attitude. Vertical Gardening is an enriching experience, its life enhancing, often therapeutic, and is most always something to look forward to.

**Have fun growing!!!**