

Gardening up the Walls: Building a Recycled Vertical Garden

Materials

- Potting soil
- Germinated seeds
- At least 4 plastic water bottles (same size)
- Pushpin or nail to poke holes
- Scissors or exacto knife
- (optional) rubber bands or string
- (optional) pebbles or pea gravel

Instructions

Note: Before you begin, feel free to decorate the bottles with sharpies or paints to make them beautiful!

Create the base bottle.

1. Cut the top of the bottle off.
2. Create a small hole about 2 inches away from the bottom of the bottle.
3. Cut another small hole directly across from the first for drainage.
4. Use an exacto knife or scissors to cut “windows” that are about 1 inch wide in the bottle.
5. Fill the bottle with potting soil until about an inch from the cut edge.
Pebbles or pea gravel also work well in this section if you will not plant in the base bottle.

Create tower level bottles

1. Take the lid off of each bottle.
2. Cut the bottom of the bottle off.
3. On the side of each bottle, create a few flaps or windows by cutting the top and sides of a rectangle shape.
4. Stack the bottle with the small, circular hole down onto the tower. Fill the bottle with potting soil until about an inch from the cut edge.

Note: you can create and stack several of these tower level bottles.

Create irrigation system

Create a funnel:

1. Create a funnel by cutting a bottle in half and taking off the lid.
2. Push the funnel (the top half of the bottle) into the dirt of the top tower level bottle.

Create a water tank

1. Take off the cap of your next bottle.

2. Poke a hole through the cap using a nail or a pushpin and put the cap back on the bottle.
3. Cut the bottom of the bottle off. Push the top of the bottle face down into the funnel.

Plant!

1. Using a finger, push a small indent in the potting soil by the window. This will be where you plant.
2. Plant the sprouts in the indents of each window.

Keep your seeds watered by refilling the water tank, which will drip down from the funnel and through the tower.