

Money-Saving Gardening Tips  
~Top tips for the modern gardener~

# Money saving gardening tips

*~Top tips for the modern gardener~*

Part of the Garden Master eBook series

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Garden Master eBooks



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## GoTo4 Gardening

Welcome to the first eBook in our **Garden Master eBook** series.

Here at **GoTo4Gardening** we aim to make the very latest gardening advice, information, and news easier to access than it ever has been before.

We aim to be an online community that will bring gardeners together and help you to make a real difference in your community.

### **Breaking down social barriers**

Gardening is one of life's greatest pleasures. After all, there is something really quite wonderful about watching your garden grow! After realising that, in today's diverse society, shared interests and hobbies bring people together and break down social barriers. We decided to launch **GoTo4Gardening** as a gardening website that will really make a difference.

We want the website to bring together all levels of society, from all social and ethnic backgrounds, who would otherwise never interact with each other, over the thing that they are most passionate about; gardening.

Our website as well as being a mine of gardening information, has sections such as "Our Community", where people can get together to start and manage projects such as cleaning up their local park, or helping elderly or disabled members of the community with their heavier gardening chores. In our free Classified section, gardeners can buy and sell both new and used garden equipment. Our members' forum is a place for members to discuss gardening issues and post comments.

### **Your 'go to' guide for all of your gardening needs**

Armed with a first-hand insight into the world of gardening and a passion for the great outdoors, we have created a resource that will allow you to access the very latest gardening advice, interesting articles, and even insider inputs from a host of outdoor experts.

From seeking advice about the black spots on your roses to selling your lawnmower, our unique platform aims to help you make the most of your garden.

## **Connecting a community of gardeners**

Our online forum provides users with the opportunity to connect and engage with a community of gardening enthusiasts. As we all know, in the world of gardening there's a lot you can learn from your fellow gardeners!

Get involved, expand upon your gardening knowledge, and pick up plenty of hints, tips, and advice along the way.

## **Buy and sell your gardening equipment online**

What's more, you can also buy and sell using our online facility. From plants and pots to gardening equipment, if you are looking to sell, you're in the right place!

## **Everything you will ever need to know to grow your garden**

The possibilities are truly endless when it comes to creating an outdoor environment that you love to spend time in. If you're looking for inspiration or simply advice and tips on how to grow great plants, our gardening resource is fully equipped with everything you need to grow a happy garden.

[www.goto4gardening.co.uk/register](http://www.goto4gardening.co.uk/register) for plenty more gardening tips

## Section 1: Being Frugal in the Garden

When it comes to gardening it is so easy to spend, spend, spend! While you may plan a 'quick trip' to your local garden centre to pick up a new pair of gloves, the sight of a 6ft camellia in perfect bud or the secateurs that you have been craving, may just be too much temptation and you get home having spent far more than you had planned to.

In the first section of **Money saving gardening tips: Top tips for the modern gardener**, we are going to look at three different areas where you can really save a lot of money. In fact, you may have all you need to complete all three without spending a penny!

**Composting without a compost bin** doesn't actually have to be any more messy or smelly than composting with a bin. As the title suggests, this method doesn't require a bin – this top tip really is free!

Contrary to popular belief, **making your own newspaper pots** does not actually require a black belt in origami. You can pick up a free newspaper from so many different places – recycling this everyday material provides you with a very useful garden product. Decomposing in the soil once planted out, the newspaper leaves no waste at all!

**Making your own chemicals** gives you a real slice of the good life. Using just a few everyday, household items, you can grow, kill, and deter pretty much any garden problem! No special equipment or personal protective equipment required. Depending on the ratios that you mix, you may not even have to set up a child and pet exclusion zone after you have used your chemicals either.

For those of you concerned about the environmental implications of gardening choices, these three projects are so much more

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environmentally friendly than pretty much any other problem solution that is available on the market – and you can do them all for free!

## Composting without a compost bin

Making your own compost is a real ‘must-do’ for the frugal gardener (as well as the gardener who wants to know what is going into their soil!)

Learning how to make your own compost is a craft that, while requiring a little time and knowledge to set up, is very achievable for any garden. So, off to buy a compost bin then? No! Believe it or not, it is very possible (and satisfying!) to be able to create a successful composting area without the need for a compost bin – that easily saving you £30 before you’ve even started!

Follow these 7 simple steps and you’ll soon be digging in your very own compost that will not cost you a penny.

### 1. Choose the spot

The choice of where to site your compost pile is possibly one of the most important decisions to get just right.

- Choose a shady spot
- The area should be close to a water source
- Keep your neighbours happy and site your compost pile out of their eye line and away from the boundary.

### 2. Dig your base

- Using your spade blade, mark out an area that is between 1mx1m and 1.5mx1.5m. It is worth considering just how much compost you are looking to make before you decide on the final size of your base.
- Remove any leaf litter or other loose topping on the soil.
- Scrape the area smooth and level

### 3. The Brown Carbon Layer

Your base layer should be compromised of twigs and small, loose pieces of garden waste. Make sure that the twigs are less than 2.5cms

in diameter. This carbon layer will provide not only the base for your compost pile, but will also help to aerate the pile.

Now you have set-up the base for your compost pile, you can start adding to it. These next steps are suggests for the layers.

#### **4. Green nitrogen layer**

In this layer, you should add kitchen waste,

- Coffee grounds
- Fruit and vegetable peelings
- Tea bags
- Leftovers (no meat!)

and the following types of garden waste:

- Hay
- Straw
- Grass clippings

Throughout the composting process, save twigs for the following brown carbon layers.

#### **5. Leaves and leaf litter**

This layer is one that is often forgotten about but is important to be added to make the next brown carbon layer in the pile. The next 15cm or so should be made up of leaves and leaf litter. Make sure that you do not allow your compost pile to dry out. If you were using a compost bin, then the humidity would be keeping everything moist, but as your compost pile will be open there is the opportunity for everything to dry out if the weather is dry.

#### **6. Second green nitrogen layer**

Add another layer of waste as described in step 4, then leave your compost pile to sit for a while and heat up.

#### **7. Aerate**

Another occasionally forgotten step in the compost making process is to aerate the pile. Lift and turn with a fork or pitchfork about once a week. If you don't have a fork then a good mix with a spade should do the trick.

After you have completed these 7 steps, you should continue to aerate weekly for around 2 months. Then allow your compost pile to rest for a few weeks before you use it in your garden. A good layer ratio for your pile is 3 brown carbon to 1 green nitrogen.



## Making your own newspaper pots

No black belt in origami required!

### You will need:

1. Newspaper: There are so many free newspapers around. If you do not get them through your door then some good places to find them are: sports centres, community centres, railway stations.
2. Something to use as a mould:
  - Tin can
  - Wine bottle
  - Shampoo bottle
  - Etc. etc.

### Now for the fun bit!

Using your mould as a guide and considering how tall you want the pot to be, fold the newspaper until it is around twice as wide as you want the pot to be tall.

### Roll!

- Place your mould on top of the newspaper with around 2/3 of the mould on the newspaper.
- Roll the newspaper tightly around the mould.
- It may not finish up lined up, but don't worry – the pot will still work regardless
- When you get to the end of the paper, hold the seam and push the end of the paper not touching the mould to make a fold underneath the mould.
- Hold the mould and the pot and give it a good bang on a hard surface
- Gently remove the mould from the newspaper. It may feel fragile, but once you have added soil it will stick.

This is a brilliant project to do with children and adults alike. When you come to plant out, just dig a hole in the ground and pop the pot and the plant in. The newspaper will decompose. You may want to open or remove the bottom of the newspaper pot if it is very stiff.

## Making your own chemicals

*“What is a weed? A plant whose virtues have never been discovered.”*

Ralph Waldo Emerson

While this may be true, you may not be in the business of discovering the virtues of plants that are in the way of your planting plans or growing through the cracks in your concrete.

The suggestions we are going to discuss here are also more environmentally friendly than most of the chemical you can buy today to kill weeds. These are much cheaper alternatives and far better for the soil, the water, and also for you and your family and pets – so if they work it’s a win-win situation!

### Get digging!

If you are looking to spend absolutely no money at all and are looking for the most environmentally friendly way to rid your garden of weeds then there is actually an answer (!). Get digging!

- Pull up the weeds
- Dig up the roots
- Leave to dry in the sun
- It is then possible to put the weeds on your compost pile, but you will need to be certain that they are really dead otherwise you will be simply plating the weeds back into your garden and your hard work will have been in vain.

This method takes time, but is free!

### Boiling water

If you are using this method, please be careful not to burn yourself! This method is very simple.

- Boil some water
- Pour on the weed

... and that’s it!

This is a really useful method for killing weeds in areas that you are looking to replant after you have removed the weeds. Unlike

chemical weed killers, boiling water does not leave harmful residues in the water. While not free, this method of weed killing is extremely cheap.

## **Let them burn!**

This method does require the purchase of some kit, but as it is still significantly cheaper than applying chemicals it has made it onto our list, and hey – who doesn't want to have a go with a flame-weeder?! A word of caution: you will need to pay careful attention with this method that you are certain that the burnt areas are fully extinguished before you leave the area. If your garden has been particularly dry then this might not be a suitable weed solution.

## **Vinegar**

This is a method that is regaining popularity recently. A supermarket 5% acetic acid white vinegar is perfect for applying to weed leaves. 20% versions are available in garden centres but this level can cause damage to eyes, lungs, or skin, so use with care. Repeated applications of the weaker solution may prove more effective over time as there is less chance of hitting plants outside of your target area. It is a widely held belief that a little washing-up liquid added to the mix can improve the vinegar's weed killing effectiveness.

## ***Disclaimer***

*While these homemade weed killers are natural, they may still harm your soil. They may also harm humans, pets, and wildlife. Herbicide is defined as "a substance that is toxic to plants". This means that all plants will be affected if they come into contact with these solutions. Care should be taken to mix up quantities as given in professional advice. Any misused substance may cause injury. **GoTo4Gardening***

*does take any responsibility for any injury caused by following any suggestions in this eBook.*

## Section 2: Hardscaping

In the second section of **Money saving gardening tips: Top tips for the modern gardener**, we are going to look at three different areas where you can save money with hardscaping and furniture. We'll let you into a little secret here; it's all about planning!

**Colour** in your garden doesn't always have to be about planting (shock, horror!). Use a bit of imagination and use paint to create a background or new feature to your garden. A freshly painted fence panel can give your garden a lift or even a whole new look. Look to the long term and invest in quality paint. Stones and gravel have been used for centuries to enhance the features in gardens. Give your existing gravel a wash (free!) or buy a small bag to make a feature of a bed. Furniture can also be considered as a hardscaping area of your garden and should be chosen wisely. Gardening is all about looking to the long-term and there is no reason why this shouldn't be applied to the landscaping areas of your garden.

Follow the current trend of recycling chic – have a go at making some pallet furniture to add **Structure** to your garden! Source the materials for free and try your hand at making everything from chairs and tables to planters and raised beds. Use left over paint to create a unique look to your pallet furniture or leave it to naturalise in its new environment.

Why not add **Texture** to your garden with a whole new alpine display? Follow our hints and tips to create a free backdrop out of waste materials and then choose your plants wisely to create a real value for money bed. Look to the future and choose plants for their growing patterns. Ones that are suitable for splitting will really provide great value for money and bring frugal enjoyment to your gardening for years to come.

## Colour

### **Paint: Background or feature?**

If you have a fence in your garden, then you have a brilliant opportunity to create either a supportive background piece or a feature with a splash of colour. The best way, as with many things, to make this a real value for money project is to make sure you prepare the fence for painting and to use good quality paint. This may cost you a little extra time and money, but you should see your investment lasting longer and in better condition than if you spend little time preparing and buying low quality paint.

### **Stained timber**

In a similar fashion to paint, the best way to achieve value for money when staining the timber in your garden is to prepare it well and to choose a good quality wood stain. Using stain over timber really allows you to see the grain in the wood. Stain can look very different on samples to when it is on your fence or other wooden items. Part of your preparation should be to make sure the stain will give you the effect you are after.

### **Stone and gravel**

In 18<sup>th</sup> Century France, coloured gravels were used to make designs on the ground. They favoured symmetrical and geometric patterns. Today the use of stones and gravel can be seen widely in garden design. They are popular with landscape designers who use them to create mosaics, paving, and as a surfacing product for driveways and paths. While stones and gravels may seem like an expensive investment, if you look after them they will last for as long as you want them as a feature in your garden. They also serve a cross purpose as a weed suppressant, so the use of stone and gravel can actually present quite a saving over time. Stone and gravel are available in such a wide range of colours that you are sure to find one to fit your colour scheme. It is advisable to use weed control matting underneath large stones, whereas a thick layer of stones or the use of

gravel will be effective in weed control. When you are planning where to use stones and gravel in your garden, consider how you will prevent them from moving to other areas of your garden and also the ground gradient – if you place stones and gravel on a slope, the rain will wash it away!

## Furniture

It is important not to overlook the furniture in your garden. When designing your scheme, make sure you allow for the colour, style, and material of the furniture in your garden. Furniture can be expensive. It is well worth buying saving to buy quality garden furniture if you can, as it will see you through many years. There decisions that you need to make when you are buying garden furniture:

- **Material:** plastic, wrought iron, teak, aluminum, and rattan are a selection that is available today. Plastic furniture is generally the cheapest and can really add some colour to your garden as it can come in pretty much every colour of the rainbow! Teak and wrought iron are generally the most expensive in this list, but with the correct care could last for generations – making your choice of either of these a real value for money decision.
- **Aesthetics:** think about the colour scheme in your garden. Does it allow for fairly neutral furniture colours or are you looking for statement colours? The aesthetics of furniture are so subjective, but there is the opportunity here to choose pieces that will really add to the colours in your garden – colours in the garden are not just about the plants!

## Structure

### Pallet furniture

Probably the most on-trend structural recycling activity at the moment, pallet furniture can be really easy on your wallet while creating some amazing furniture and features for your garden. Pallet furniture may take a lot of time to build, but can be (almost) free! Perfect for the money-saving gardener.

Using wooden shipping pallets are such an eco friendly use of what would otherwise be consider a waste material. Once you have found source of pallets and have some tools, the possibilities are endless; just look on pinterest! Some of the really popular designs at the moment are outdoor seating and planters. The really great thing about working with wooden pallets is that you don't really need specialist knowledge or to be a designer to have a go. Sometimes the most effective way to use pallets is to secure them together and give them a coat of paint! Generally the trickiest part of the build is deconstructing the pallets, which are designed not to fall apart!

### What do I need to get started?

- Pallets
- A saw
- A claw hammer
- Nails

### How to

1. Find some pallets. They can be found discarded in areas where there is a lot of industrial work. Shopping centres and refuge areas can also be good sources. Do make sure you ask before removing the pallets. Usually the people who are getting rid of them will be pleased that someone else is taking over the task for them. However, some pallets remain the property of the shipper and are waiting to be returned (if the pallet is painted blue then this is nearly always the case).



2. Find a project! If this is your first project then consider one that doesn't require too much deconstructing.
3. If you do deconstruct the pallets, make sure you have taken care of any nails that are protruding from the wood or have been dropped on the floor. Also worth considering is where you might store any spare wood for your next project.
4. Construct your project. There are so many guides available for free online, you will be spoiled for choice!
5. Sand and seal your finished furniture with a sealant, varnish, or stain. Make sure you choose a waterproof sealant or paint if you are planning on keeping your furniture outside.

## Texture

### Creating an alpine display

The creation of an alpine display can create a really beautiful textured look to your garden and doesn't have to cost very much! When you are designing your alpine display, think about the resources you have available to you already. The beauty of an alpine display is that it doesn't need to all look perfect to achieve a stunning look. In general alpine plants are native to conditions that are rocky and sunny, so choose the position of your display with this in mind. You will also need to make sure that your display is not in an area where the plants are likely to get too wet. Simple areas where you can add one or two plants and create a real transformation are: in between paving stones, in walls, in window boxes, or in troughs.

The important issue when choosing the actual plants you are going to plant is to make sure you understand their height and spread. When looking to save money on planting schemes, it is worth remembering that a garden is not static. Choose plants, where possible, that can be split when they are big enough.

### What do I need to get started?

We are going to look at creating your display on the ground, so these are suggestions for this situation:

- Horticultural potting grit
- John Innes No.2
- Decorative gravel if you are choosing to use it
- Alpine plants!

### How to build your alpine display

- Foundations: choose the area in your garden that is most suitable for your display. Use any stones, rubble, or bricks that are available to you. Let their size and shapes guide you and your design. Remember that these 'free' materials are going to making something stunning, so don't always leave them where you first put them.

- Cover the rubble with sheeting or anything that will prevent soil loss. Cover your shape with soil from your garden.
- Secure the rubble. You may be able to do this with the soil, or you may need to use some of the stones, rubble, or bricks that you had previously intended in the main under structure.
- Mix your John Innes with the grit; a good mix is equal parts of both.
- Place your mix where you are planning to place your plants. This is an area where you can save money: usually the advice would be to cover the entire area with your compost/grit mix, but there is really no need to put any where you are not placing plants.
- Set out your plants and plant them when you are happy with the layout.
- Top dressing around the plants is important. If you have spare mix, you may like to put it over the display to even out the look. You may find that a brush will help you to achieve a really polished look.
- Water in.

There you have it, a beautiful miniature landscape using a few plants and recycled material from your garden.

## Ten top alpine plants to consider:

- Arabis
- Arenaria
- Armeria
- Campanula
- Dianthus
- Phlox
- Saxifrage
- Sedum
- Sempervivum
- Thyme.

**Top tip:** *don't let your alpine display get too wet. If there is a lot of heavy rainfall, consider covering the plants to protect your investment.*

## Section 3: Planting for Long-term Saving

Now this is a huge topic that could probably be a whole eBook on its own!

In this third and final section of **Money saving gardening tips: Top tips for the modern gardener**, we are going to look at three different areas where a little bit of knowledge and skill can really save a lot of money.

In **Top Tips for planting seeds**, there are two main issues we will consider: how to prepare and plant seeds to give them the best opportunity to germinate, and how to store seeds for use in the years to come. These hints and tips will give you the best chance possible of really achieving the best-possible value for money from your seeds. If you don't need to buy seeds every year then that may save you a trip to the garden centre – these tips could help you save money by keeping you out of temptation's way!

**Taking cuttings** may sound a bit like trying to find the Holy Grail and a past time reserved for initiated members of secret gardening societies, but nothing could be further from the truth! Follow our step-by-step guide and you too will be taking cuttings and 'creating' new plants. All that you need is a sharp blade and a hormone powder or gel. If you're looking to save money in your garden without compromising, taking cuttings is an area (or even a whole new hobby!) that you will really want to master.

Our final topic in this eBook is: **Buy small, grow big!** In this section new will be considering the use of plug bedding plants. Quality bedding plants are notoriously hard to grow from seed, so if you really can't live without your bedding displays, consider using plug plants. Plug plants are a much cheaper option when it comes to bedding plants, and you will have the satisfaction of watching them grow from tiny clusters of leaves to fully grown plants. Plan your planting carefully and watch how you space the plugs!

## Top Tips for planting seeds

Surely one of the truly great pleasures to be found in gardening is to see seeds that you have planted grow into plants. Planting from seed can be the cheapest way to grow many plants, but it does take skill and dedication to see the fruits of your labour.

### Here are some top tips for looking after your seeds:

#### Record keeping

Record keeping is an art unto itself and really is a key aspect to successfully growing seeds year on year. A really great piece of advice is to keep a propagation journal. Record when you have sown seeds, when they germinated, how successful they have been. With this information in your hand, you will be able to plan for future years and get the best value possible from your seeds.

#### Storing seeds

Quite often, there are just far too many seeds in the pack to use at once. This leaves you with the conundrum of deciding whether to either throw away the remaining seeds or to store them for following years. Storing left over seeds is really one of the best ways to save money while gardening and you will really notice how much money you are saving.

- Keep left over seeds in a dark and cool place that has a low humidity. Some seeds may keep well in a fridge (just make sure you label them properly!). Resalable sandwich bags are very useful for this, as are the old-fashioned black film containers.

***Did you know?*** To test if a seed is potentially viable soak it in water for a couple of hours. Seeds that are potentially viable will sink and dead ones will float. Larger seeds will react more reliably with this test.

## **Drainage**

When you come to planting seeds, it is really important that you are planting them in containers that have good drainage. If you are concerned about drainage, you can make holes in the pot or use a little horticultural grit at the bottoms of the pots. Newspaper pot work really well for seeds as they help to maintain correct levels of moisture (see page 7).

## **Disease prevention**

The best ways to prevent disease in your newly germinated plants is to ensure there is enough airflow over the top of the plants and that they have adequate drainage. Ways that this can be achieved are by using: sphagnum moss, or fine grit on the surface of the soil to keep them dry.

## **Warmth**

The correct levels of warmth surrounding the seed pots can encourage germination. Heat mats can be used, but artificial heat needs to be kept constant and increases the chance of the moisture being wicked away too quickly and the seed drying out. If you are keeping your seedlings on a sunny windowsill, then it is really important to turn your plants daily. This will keep the stems strong.

## **Feeding**

Proper nutrition keeps everything growing well and the same can be said for seedlings. A little fertiliser once a week after the seedling have developed 'true' leaves will really encourage plant growth.

## Top Tips for taking cuttings

Perennials and shrubs, both hardy and tender, are great choices for taking cuttings from. Some plants are just not practical or easy to grow from seed, but cutting and propagation are very effective and are methods to keep plants going year on year; thus saving a lot of money! Once you have got the hang of it, growing new plants on from cuttings is actually quite easy. Cuttings can have roots within just a few weeks, making this task also a very rewarding task. Different types of cuttings include:

- **Softwood cuttings:** cuttings from young shoots. Cuttings are taken early on in the season.
- **Semi-ripe cuttings:** these are taken when new shoots have grown on and have changed to a more mature colour than that of softwood cuttings. These are most successfully taken after a few months of growth in the growing season.
- **Ripe cuttings:** cuttings that are taken in early autumn, before autumn colours have settled in.
- **Hardwood cuttings:** cuttings taken in winter. This cutting is taken from a fully dormant stem.
- **Root cuttings**
- **Leaf stem cuttings**
- **Leaf vein cuttings**
- **Leaf bud cuttings:** cuttings where the leaf and the bud are taken.

### Why do some cuttings fail to root?

The primary reason why some cuttings fail to root is that you are taking the cutting away from its water source! Until you have placed the cutting into a new environment where it has water available, it cannot absorb any water.

### Early morning is the best time for collecting cuttings.

This is because the parent plant has most water at this time of day. If

you choose to take cuttings later in the day, you will need to take into account the immediate loss of water experienced by the cutting once you have taken it.

## **Cleanliness**

Before you cut, make sure that all of your equipment and is clean, especially your cuttings knife. Make sure you clean your knife between taking cuttings of different plants. Don't risk spreading viruses between your plants!

## **After you take the Cuttings**

After you have taken your cutting, you should place them directly into the specialist cuttings compost once you have cut it. Cover with a plastic cover and keep the cutting out of the sunlight to help retain moisture.

## **Liquid gel or Hormone powder?**

Hormone powders and gels have many purposes. They will help the cutting to grow and can help to prevent diseases via fungicides that are in the solutions. Mix the solution according to the package's suggestion.

If you don't have a specialist cuttings knife, then any clean blade can be used. Hormone powders can last for a long time as you only need a very little for each cutting. Cuttings composts can be made up from combinations of composts and additives that you already have. All of these combined with the fact that you are not buying new plants every season, mean that cutting and propagating plants is a brilliant money-saving technique. It is also extremely satisfying!



## Buy small, grow big!

One of the cheapest ways to add some colour to your garden is to buy your bedding plants as plugs. As annuals really only last looking good for one season, buying them as plugs can provide the best value planting around! This is particularly true for plants such as Busy Lizzies, Petunias, and Begonias that are notoriously difficult to grow from seed. Another benefit of plug plants is that there is less risk that some will not grow than when you plant seeds. Plug plants will generally be sold measuring around 4-8cm and do require a little work before they can be planted outside.

### When you first bring your plug plants home

- Keep the plugs inside, in a draught-free and well-lit area for at least 24-36hours.
- Water from underneath. Fill a large tray and place the plug trays in the larger tray.
- After they have sat in the water tray for an hour so, allow the plugs to drain.

### How to grow-on plugs

- Water before planting
- Remove plants from the plugs and place into small pots or trays
- Use a good quality multi-purpose compost
- Keep warm but out of direct sunlight for 24hours
- Use a liquid fertiliser after about 2-3 weeks
- Keep indoors and grow on for 3-4 weeks

### When to plant out

- Only plant out spring bedding once the frost risk has passed
- For the 2 weeks before planting out, harden the plants by putting them outside during the daytime and inside at nighttime.

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- Water well before planting out
- Water regularly to encourage new growth. Late evening is a good time to water. Don't allow your plants to dry out.
- Once you have planted out your plug plants, if there is the risk of a frost then the plants should be covered during the night.

## Summary

We hope that you have enjoyed and found some useful hints and tips in this first eBook in our series, **Money saving gardening tips: Top tips for the modern gardener.**

With a little bit of planning and some elbow grease, plenty of money can be saved in your garden without compromising on the design or quality.

Follow our tips today and bask in the knowledge that you have: created pots for nothing, designed a whole new display for the price of a few plants, or grown a plant from a cutting you have taken.

A wonderful garden is really achievable on any budget – what's stopping you?

[www.goto4gardening.co.uk/register](http://www.goto4gardening.co.uk/register) for plenty more gardening tips

## A few more money-saving gardening hints and tips that we couldn't squeeze into this eBook!

- Maintain your tools. Invest in the best and look after them; some will last a lifetime!
- Visit community gardens for frugal gardening ideas; you may be surprised what you can do with a car tyre!
- Host a plant swap. This would be particularly satisfying if you swapped a plant that you have grown from a cutting; 'free' plants!

- Pool resources and buy in bulk. Who really has space for 200 daffodil bulbs just because the bulk price was amazing? Split the cost with friends and save money.
- Collect twigs (with the landowner's permission) to use as pea and bean supports. This will look far more natural than anything you can buy in a garden centre.