

WATERING YOUR PLANTS

1



When to water: If the soil looks and feels dry you need to water. It is better to water in the mornings if possible.

2



Water the soil: not the plant. Water on left on the leaves might evaporate and not reach the roots. Wet leaves can also attract fungal diseases

3



Seeds in beds: use your fingers to draw a line in the soil, this is called a drill. Water the drill before adding the seeds.

4

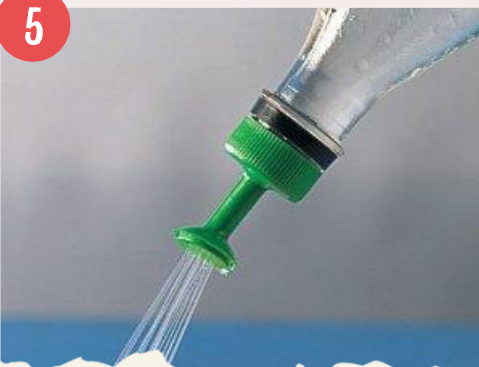


Seeds in trays: Water seeds from below. Place the seed trays into a tray of water. The compost will absorb the moisture using capillary action.

TOP TIP

Mulch (cover) the soil with a thick layer of compost to retain water

5



Seedlings: these can be delicate, so use a bottle top waterer (on a recycled plastic bottle) to moisten the compost.

6



Planting out: Dig a hole and water the hole. Once the water drains away put the plant in the hole. Cover with soil and firm it in. Water again until there is a puddle.

7



Fruit trees: When it is hot or when trees are young they need at least one large watering can of water per day.

8



Established plants: Soak the soil about 1-2 times a week rather than a little every day. This creates deep roots rather than fine surface roots.