

Gardening 101: Three steps to success

The weather is getting warm, and while you've entertained the idea of gardening, you may not think you have what it takes. You too can garden once you know what you're doing. Gardening is a fulfilling hobby and great exercise too. The Home Depot offers you the following Gardening 101 three-step checklist to set you on the path to greening your thumbs this spring season.

Step one: Build your basic gardening toolbox

There are six basic tools a beginner needs to get started: a spading fork, a hoe, a watering can, a round-ended shovel, a bow rake, and a set of garden shears. All of these tools can be purchased for less than \$150. While you can always add

to your toolbox later, these basic tools will take you far.

Step two: Know your space

Before you start picking plants, pre-investigate your outdoor space so you have all the right information at your fingertips. Do you have a small or large space? Measure it and bring the dimensions with you for clarity. Is your space sun-drenched or shade-covered?



This will directly impact the plants you choose. Do you want plants that will last year after year or for a single season only? This will determine whether you select perennials or annuals. Ask for assistance while you're shopping. Between

The Home Depot's exclusive line of Optimum plants and the expertise of its garden centre associates, you'll be set before you know it.

Step three: Get out there and play

Once you have your toolkit and your plants, get outside and have fun. Gardening is a productive activity in every way. Not only can you beautify your home while reducing stress and getting exercise, you can also enjoy the fruits of your work throughout the season, whether it's with a beautiful landscape, fresh flowers or delicious vegetables and fruits.

Follow these simple steps and you will be a master gardener in no time. More information on plants, projects or products can be found at The Home Depot garden centre nearest you or online at www.homedepot.ca/gardencentre.

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