

GARDENING HINTS

- Use landscaping fabric, mulch, or corrugated cardboard around plants and seedlings to reduce the need to weed and water as frequently.
- Explore new plant varieties and focus on each plant's sensory qualities. For example, in addition to geraniums, also consider mint, lemon, and lavender.
- If you have low vision, create large print signs/labels with index cards and a wide-tip black marker. Laminate the cards or seal them in plastic sandwich bags. Attach each card to a small craft stick.
- Use brightly painted stones in different colors to indicate the type of flower or plant. For example, white stone=daisies, red stone=tulips or tomatoes.
- Tie beads to small craft sticks. For example, one bead=carrots, two beads=onions, three beads=lettuce.
- If you have low vision, look for commercially produced garden tools with brightly colored handles that will contrast with the ground or with your plant bench.

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GARDENING HINTS (*cont.*)

- Yogurt cups with the bottoms removed can protect young plants. Sink the cup halfway into the soil and plant inside it. It will outline the area in which your seedlings are growing and can also help with weed control.
- Use an egg carton as a homemade planting spacer. Poke a 1-inch hole in the bottom of each egg portion and position the egg carton/spacer on the soil. Place one seed into each hole and cover with soil. Gently remove the spacer and continue planting.
- You can also apply contrasting tape or paint to the handles of your favorite gardening tools or paint the tines of your rake to help with locating your tools and identifying your work area.
- Always return your gardening tools and supplies to their proper storage locations. Do not leave them in the garden or on the lawn.

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