Instructions for Transplanting Your Seedlings

• Bucket (with holes drilled in bottom) or other semi-permeable container at least 5 gallons
• Soil/compost mix
• Seedlings
• Trowel
• Gloves

Materials Needed

Instructions

• On a surface that won’t be hard to clean (i.e., not your carpet), pour/shovel soil into your bucket (with holes drilled in bottom) or other semi-permeable container at least 5 gallons. Make sure your plant is sitting in a low-point; you want the soil to be relatively flat.

• Around the entire base of the plant, allowing the soil to settle in and make contact with the roots.

• Then, water your plant. Taking your water container, pour about 24 oz of water evenly around the base of the plant.

• Place your bucket in a sunny location (depending on plant needs) and water/check on your plant regularly. See the plant-specific guides for more details on how to treat your seedlings well or your plant regularly.

Care

• Say something nice to your plant (optional).

• Place container in a sunny location

• Make sure your plant is sitting in a low-point; you want the soil to be relatively flat.

• In the center of your bucket, dig out a small hole about 2x the size of the soil around your new seedling. Move the soil to the sides of your bucket, rather than taking it out of your seedling's container to loosen it and then slide out the seedling (don't pull it out), loosen the soil around it. You want all the roots to be completely covered by soil and the stem/leaves to be exposed. No need to pat down the soil after planting - loose soil allows water to enter more easily.

• When soil is loose, remove your plant from its plastic container. Gently press the sides of your seedling's container to loosen it and then slide out the seedling (don't pull it out), loosen the soil around it. You want all the roots to be completely covered by soil and the stem/leaves to be exposed. No need to pat down the soil after planting - loose soil allows water to enter more easily.

• Place seedling roots into your hole and gently scrape soil back around it. You want all the roots to be completely covered by soil, and the stem/leaves to be exposed. No need to pat down the soil after planting - loose soil allows water to enter more easily.

• Then water your plant! Taking your water container pour about 24 oz of water evenly around the entire base of the plant, allowing the soil to settle in and make contact with the roots.

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• Place your bucket in a sunny location (depending on plant needs) and water/check on your plant regularly. See the plant-specific guides for more details on how to treat your seedlings well or your plant regularly.
When your plants (except for herbs) stop producing for the year, you can remove them from your pot, shake off any excess soil from the roots and add them to your compost or brush pile. If plants suffered from disease, they should not be composted.

Because plants get their nutrients from the soil, you’ll need to refresh soil in your bucket garden before planting it again. You can do this by loosening up any soil that is left in the container - you can do this with a hand trowel. Add more soil if needed - you don’t want to add soil from the ground because it’s too dense to properly drain in your bucket. A very small quantity will suffice for a bucket garden.

To prepare your bucket garden for the upcoming growing season, fill your bucket almost to the top, mixing new soil in with the remains of the previous growing season. Add nutrients and volume with minimal effort. You’ll want to provide nutrients and volume with minimal effort. You’ll want to soil/compost mix or raised bed mix (sold in bags at stores) will make this go much faster.

Soil

Plants

Prepping Containers for Fall Planting

Replanting

September-October should work well but wait until hot temperatures start to wind down otherwise your plants may not do well. In Georgia, you can wait to plant most fall crops until your summer crops stop producing. September-October should work well. Fall crops include: kale, lettuce, carrots, collards, etc. In Georgia, you can see what new plant starts are available at local farms or community gardens.

When your plants (except for herbs) stop producing for the year, you can remove them from your bucket garden. If plants suffered from disease, they should not be composted.