



Care instructions for your wicking garden bed

Thanks for your purchase of a DIY wicking bed kit. We hope you have years of productive vegie gardening ahead of you. If you have any questions regarding what to grow, when to plant and how, feel free to contact us via the details below

Recommended soil mix

There are no commercially available soils on the market that are ideal for wicking beds. The one we recommend as a starting point is Jeffries Veggie and Garden mix. To this we recommend adding the following per square metre of soil;

4.5kg block of coir, rehydrated
1/2 bag (25L) of Peats Cow Manure (or your own compost)
Neutrog Rooster Booster – 1 cup
Neutrog Seamungus – 1 cup
Blood and Bone – 1 cup
GoGo juice to water in seedlings, as directed.

Mix all the above (except GoGo juice) thoroughly to provide a roughly homogenous mixture.

Wicking bed information/instructions

The first few weeks of your new seedling's life are critical. The wicking bed takes time to begin the wicking process, 1-2 weeks on average, although rainfall will accelerate this. During this time your seedlings will need to be watered regularly to allow them to grow roots down into the wicking zone which is ~5cm below the soil surface. In the warmer months that needs to be done every 1-2 days, preferably in the cool of the early morning or late evening. In the cooler months this should be done every 2 days assuming it doesn't rain. If you have seeds planted in addition to seedlings, these will need to be watered for an extra 1-2 weeks more than the seedlings to reach the size in which they become independent.

Once the seedlings are established you only need to keep an eye on the water level in the reservoir by looking down the inlet pipe. As long as you can see water, the beds will be wicking. To reassure yourself it is still wicking you can check by sticking your finger into the soil to a depth of at least 5cm. It should be moist, not wet, and cool. A thin piece of dowel can be used to check the water level via the inlet pipe.