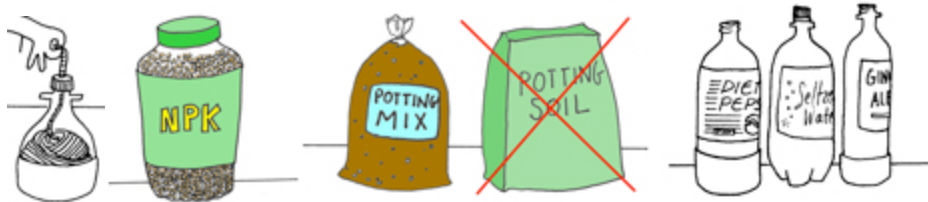
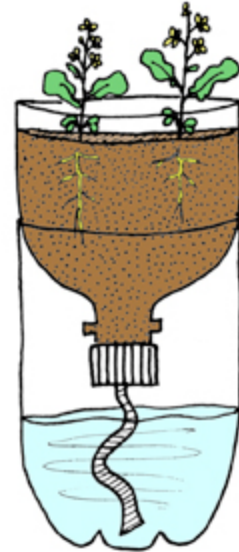


Bottle Growing System

The Bottle Growing System (BGS) is a low-costs growing system. Made from [recycled soda bottles](#) this system is simple, cheap, and easy to use. The Bottle Growing System is a hydroponics system; the plants water from the reservoir below. Up to twelve Fast Plants® in a 2-liter Bottle Growing System is ideal. This system works well for both group and individual projects with Fast Plants®.

Materials

- one [2-liter soda bottle](#) (1-liter bottle can also be used for a smaller growing system)
- one bottle cap or aluminum foil and rubberband to cover bottle opening
- awl, tapered reamer, or other tool for making a [hole in the bottle cap](#) or aluminum foil
- wicking material-fabric interfacing or cotton string
- [planting medium](#) (a soilless mixture of approximately 1 part peat moss and 1 part vermiculite, e.g. peatlite, or Scotts Redi Earth®)
- [fertilizer](#): Solid pellets (Osmocote™) - added during planting or liquid fertilizer (Peters Professional™ Fertilizer) - mixed and kept in the water reservoir throughout the life cycle (or during experimental times)
- [Wisconsin Fast Plants®™ seeds](#) (One packet of 200 seeds should be sufficient for 24 bottles.)
- water



Bottle System Construction

Step 1 – [Remove label](#) from the 2-liter bottle. Cut bottle 1 cm [below shoulder](#).

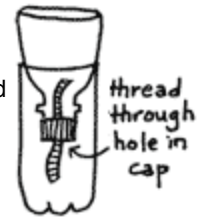


Step 2 – [Poke or drill](#) a 1 cm hole in bottle cap.

Alternatively, rubberband several layers of aluminum foil across the opening and poke a hole in the foil.



Step 3 – Thread a thoroughly wet wick strip through bottle top, invert top, and set into base. Wick should reach bottom of reservoir and thread loosely through cap (or aluminum foil).



Step 4 – Fill reservoir with water. Add **soil and seeds** to top chamber. To be effective, the wick should run up into soil, not be plastered along a side of the bottle and not extend above the soil. For better drainage, place a shallow layer of gravel, sand or vermiculite in the bottom of the soil unit.

Saturate wick
in water, then
insert into
column, threading
through cap.



[Download a pdf file with complete, illustrated growing instructions, including how to use a Growing System constructed from deli containers](#)

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