

Growing Trees from Seed Kit

Planting and Maintenance Information



Place your finger into the soil, **pulling the soil up to make the hole**, do not push or pack the soil down to make the hole for the acorn.

Make sure to keep the soil light and fluffy. If you pack the soil, it may be difficult to cover the seeds later.

The hole should be at least **2.5-3cm** deep.



Plant the acorn laying on its **side**. As it lays naturally, as if set down on a flat surface.

If the root has sprouted significantly it will have to be planted with point down, taking care to not break the root. Dig a bit more space for the root if necessary.

Do not cover the acorn with soil yet.



Check that all cells have an acorn.

If you cover the seeds as you go with more than one student working on the block, it is impossible to keep track of which cells have an acorn and which still need an acorn.



Once all the cells are full, cave the soil down around and on top of the acorns.

There should be approximately **1cm** of soil on top of each acorn.

If an acorn is a little high it can be very gently pushed down and covered.

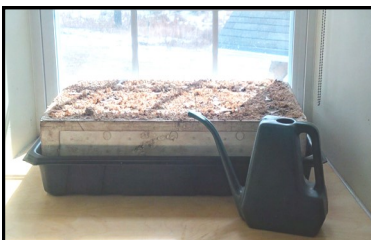
Check to see all the acorns are covered with soil and no part of the seed is exposed.



Cover each cell liberally with sawdust to a depth of **2.5cm**.

The sawdust compacts down significantly after it is watered.

If there is any saw dust left at the end, you can apply it to any cells with soil exposed.



Place the block next to a bright window. The block may have to be turned every few days to prevent leaning. **Watering:** Keep the soil moist, not wet. Please don't let the soil dry out or leave water standing in tray for more than a day (weekends excepted). For weekends add water to the tray filling to a depth of approx. 2cm. As the trees grow you will have to water more often.

To Care for Your Trees:

Check water daily— Small seeds need to be kept moist until they develop roots in the soil. If you find water soaking through to the black tray, water less often.

PHOTOTOPISM—If you notice your **trees are growing towards the light**, that's normal, just rotate your block 180 degrees.

What To Expect:



2 weeks— look for a small sprout above the soil



3-4 weeks— leaves open and it resembles a small tree



2-3 weeks— the sprout grows taller and begins to form leaves



4-5 weeks— trees start to grow a second set of leaves

Questions? Please contact Adam McDowell at adamgcd@wellington.ca