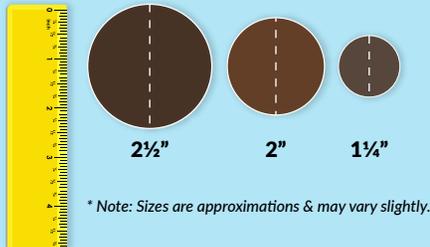


Prepare your growing medium

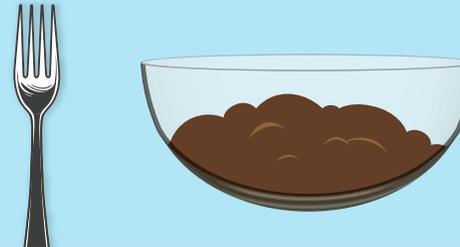
- Using a ruler or measuring tape, measure the diameter of your growing medium pellet to determine pellet size.*



- Place the pellet in a large bowl & add water 1 tbsp at a time until the growing medium is light & fluffy, not soggy. Approximations below.**



- Allow the pellet to fully expand as it absorbs the water. Using a fork, fluff the growing medium in the bowl until only soft growing medium remains. It should be moist, but not soggy.



OOPS TOO MUCH WATER?

If your growing medium is soggy, too much water has been added. Allow the growing medium to dry some by placing it in the direct sun or by emptying the mixture onto a cloth & allowing it to absorb.

When to plant

- Determine your growing zone by visiting <http://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov> and entering your zip code.

- Using the table below, determine your last frost date.

USDA ZONE	LAST FROST DATE
1	June 1-30
2	May 16-31
3	May 1-15
4	April 16-30
5	April 1-15
6	Mar 16-30
7	Mar 1-15
8	Feb 1-28
9	Jan 1-30
10	None

- Most seedlings can be started indoors 4-6 weeks before the Last Frost Date. If starting outdoors, plant after the Last Frost Date. Also, do not move growing plants outside until after Last Frost Date.

How to plant

- Place most of the moist growing medium into your container, leaving a small amount to cover the seeds.
- Create a 2-3 holes approximately 1/4" deep in the growing medium. Place 1 seed per hole, and lightly cover them with the extra growing medium you set aside.
- For best results, place the container by a sunny window or under a grow light.
- After planting, water your seeds. Keep them moist, but not soaking wet. A spray bottle is a good solution to avoid over-watering. Do not let growing medium dry out.

EXPERT TIP

For better moisture control and to stimulate germination, cover your container with plastic wrap until sprouts appear.

- Germination time depends on seed variety. If more than 1 seedling sprouts, they will need to be thinned out.

DID YOU KNOW?

The first leaves to emerge are called the Cotyledons or "Seed Leaves". These leaves are a part of the seed embryo and support early growth. The secondary leaves are called the "True Leaves". These leaves will look more like the mature plant foliage.

Thinning your plants

Seedlings need plenty of room to grow and establish healthy root systems. Once the seedlings have their first set of "true leaves" or are 3-5" tall, separate them into individual containers. This ensures that your plant is not competing for important nutrients in the soil. Be careful when thinning to ensure the roots and plant stems remain undamaged.

Questions? Comments?
Just want to say "hi"?

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