

FROM YOUR BALCONY TO THE GREEN FUTURE



Essential Tools for Urban Gardeners

Presented by Shelter International e.V.



Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

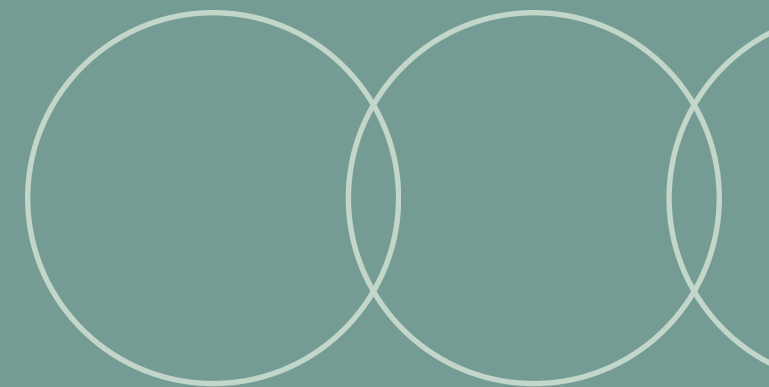


Introduction to Balcony Gardening



Essential Tools for Success

Balcony gardening empowers urban dwellers to grow their own food, enhance food security, and contribute to climate adaptation. Equipped with the right tools, anyone can cultivate a vibrant green space.



Essential Hand Tools

Tool Selection

Choosing the right tools depends on your gardening needs; maintaining and safely using them ensures a successful balcony gardening experience.

Hand Trowel

A hand trowel is essential for digging, transplanting, and soil mixing, featuring a stainless steel blade and comfortable grip.

Hand Cultivator

The hand cultivator loosens soil, aerates, and removes weeds gently, ensuring minimal disturbance to your plants' root systems.



Essential Hand Tools

Gardening Scissors

Gardening scissors are perfect for snipping delicate herbs and microgreens, providing precision and ease while working in small spaces.



Hand Weeder

The hand weeder, or khurpa, effectively removes weeds without disturbing nearby plants, making it a valuable tool for maintaining your garden.



Pruning Shears

Pruning shears are sharp clippers crucial for trimming and harvesting plants, emphasizing quality and proper blade care for longevity.

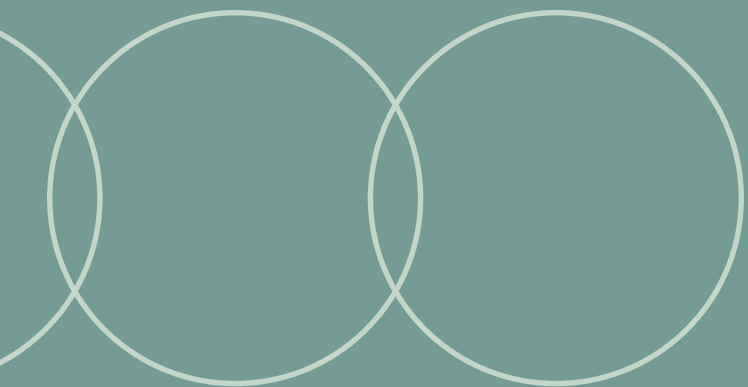


Watering Equipment Essentials

Keeping Your Plants Hydrated

Watering Best Practices

- Water early morning or evening to minimize evaporation
- Direct water to soil, not leaves, to prevent fungal diseases
- Water deeply but infrequently to encourage deep root growth
- Check soil moisture before watering (finger test: 2-3cm deep)



Containers and Supports

Size Requirements by Plant Type

Small Containers (5-10 liters)

Herbs: basil, parsley, thyme, oregano, chives

Lettuce and salad greens

Radishes

Strawberries

Medium Containers (15-25 liters)

Tomatoes (bush/determinate varieties)

Peppers

Eggplants

Chard and spinach

Large Containers (30+ liters)

Tomatoes (indeterminate varieties)

Zucchini, Cucumbers, Beans and peas (with trellis)



Terracotta Pots

Breathable and natural, enhancing plant growth and health.



Self-Watering Planters

Ideal for busy gardeners, providing consistent moisture levels.



Plastic Containers

Affordable and versatile, perfect for urban gardening.

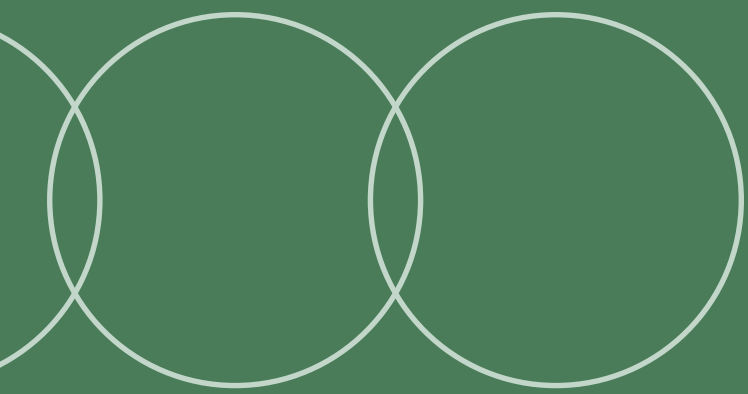


Fabric Grow Bags

Excellent drainage, promoting healthy root development and growth.

Supporting Structures for Growth

Enhancing Vertical Gardening



Additional Useful Equipment

Essential Gardening Supplies

Gardening gloves provide protection and a secure grip, while plant labels help track growth. A soil scoop or small shovel aids in managing soil amendments effectively.

