



SUSTAINABILITY

*Learn to live
lightly by
focussing on
Sustainability and
knowing more
about your place*

Activity overview

Build a self-
watering planter
out of recycled
materials

Equipment required

2L milk bottle
Permanent
marker
Strip of material
(chux/old t-shirt)
Hammer and nail
Scissors
Potting mix or
soil
Seeds or seedling

Time required

30 minutes

MILK BOTTLE PLANTER

Make an easy planter out of recycled materials. The clever design allows it to be self-watering, so once you make it almost looks after itself!

1. Mark a line $\frac{1}{3}$ of the way down your milk bottle – just underneath the handle.
2. Cut along the line. This will give you the 2 parts of the planter.
3. Make an incision in the lid of the bottle using the hammer and nail. You might need to make this bigger with your scissors to do the next step.
4. Cut a ~10 cm strip of material, and thread this through the hole in the lid of the bottle.
5. Use the bottom of the bottle as the water chamber. Fill the bottom of this with water, and then place the top section upside down into bottom part of the bottle. Make sure that your material extends far enough into the bottom chamber to soak up the water, and far enough into the top chamber to wick this water to your plant.
6. Fill the top of the bottle with potting mix or soil, holding onto the top of the wick.
7. Sow your seeds or plant your seedling. Water the top of the container with a spray bottle or very gentle spray from the hose.
8. Put your planter somewhere it will get sunlight, and keep an eye on the water level.



That's it!

Source: <https://www.realestate.com.au/lifestyle/how-to-make-wicking-beds-from-milk-containers/>

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