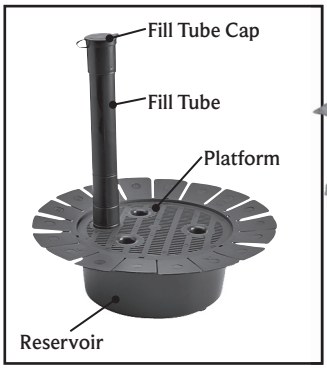
GARDENER'S SUPPLY COMPANY

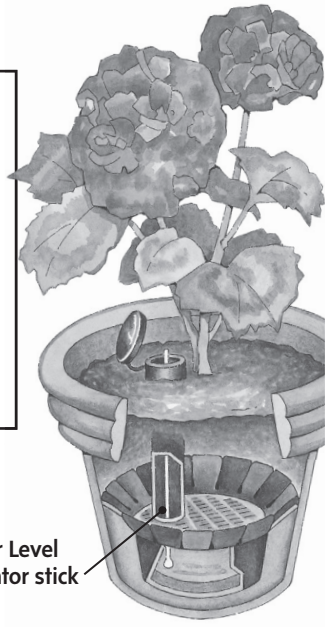
Success with Self-Watering Containers

Self-Watering Pot Reservoirs let you turn regular pots into low-maintenance, self-watering planters. The generous water reservoir reduces watering chores and allows plants to draw moisture, as they need it. Our Pot Reservoirs are available in two sizes: The 1-quart size fits 10-14" diameter pots and the 1-gallon size fits 16-20" diameter pots. Flexible wings on the reservoir platform automatically adjust to the size of the pot. The convenient fill tube holds a water level indicator that tells you when it's time to add water.

Assembly



Step 1. If you plan to use this Pot Reservoir in a planter outdoors, be sure your planter has a drainage hole. If it does not, drill one to three holes in the bottom of it to allow excess water to drain out during heavy rains or overwatering. Drainage is very important to prevent plants from drowning. Many containers have marked areas on the bottom or on the side to indicate where you can drill drainage holes. Some containers have removable plugs. If your container is for indoor use only, you may omit this step.



Step 2. Assemble the Self-Watering Pot Reservoir by snapping the Platform onto the Reservoir. Place it into the pot. The Platform's wings will automatically adjust to the size of your planter.

Step 3. Place the Fill Tube into the round opening in the top of the Platform. The fill tube is notched so you can adjust it to the desired height. Position the tube so that the top and lid will be above the soil line after planting.

over please

Step 4. The white stick on the floating Water Level Indicator must be trimmed to fit. Drop it into the Fill Tube so that the float end rests on the bottom of the reservoir. With sharp scissors, trim off the top of the Indicator stick so that it sits 2" below the top of the Fill Tube. Once the reservoir has been filled with water, the Indicator will rise to the top of the tube. When the water level gets low, the Indicator will sink, letting you know it's time to refill the reservoir.

Step 5. Close the Fill Tube Cap. Fill your container with pre-moistened planting mix, such as our Self-Watering Container mix. This soilless blend of sphagnum peat, perlite, vermiculite and limestone is specially formulated for planters that wick moisture up from a built-in reservoir. Mix in granular, slow-release fertilizer when you pre-moisten the mix, or add water-soluble fertilizer to the reservoir, diluted according to the package instructions.

Step 6. Water the soil from the top, after planting, to settle the plant roots and to ensure the soil is moist throughout, and then fill the Reservoir with water through the Fill Tube. **Important:** Monitor soil moisture and water the soil as needed until the plant roots become well established and the mix remains moist on its own. This may take two months or more, depending on the size and vigor of your plants and other environmental factors. Continue to add water through the Fill Tube to keep the Reservoir full.

Winter Care

In cold climates, soil and water can freeze and expand, causing your container to crack or split. To prevent damage, we recommend emptying, cleaning and storing your containers indoors or under cover before freezing weather sets in.

To overwinter hardy potted plants in self-watering containers, move the pot into a sheltered place that remains just above freezing. Water sparingly and do not fertilize until spring. Once warm weather arrives, repot the plants in a fresh soilless mix.

To see a video about our Self-Watering Pot Reservoir and to find more products, articles and tips on growing flowers, herbs and vegetables in containers, please visit us at **www.gardeners.com.**