



# TOMATO GROWER INSTRUCTIONS

## YOUR TOMATO GROWER INCLUDES:

- 1 planter
- 1 water reservoir platform
- 3 brackets for support structure (tomato cage)
- 12 upright rods for support structure
- 4 circular connectors for support structure
- 1 Red Cherry Tomato seed packet

## GETTING STARTED: CHOOSING THE RIGHT SETUP

The Tomato Grower can be set up in two different ways according to your gardening needs. It can be used as an all-in-one grower's pot outside in the garden, or as a tidy self-watering unit on a porch or patio where excess water is a concern.

## GARDEN USE:

Holes can be drilled in the bottom of the planter to allow for drainage when watering from the top-down; the reservoir platform acts as a barrier to keep the plant safe from ground-dwelling pests. The bottom of the Tomato Grower has eight pre-marked circles to use as a guide when drilling drainage holes. Be sure to use a sharp drill bit to avoid cracking the bottom of your planter.

## PATIO / PORCH USE :

The self-contained water reservoir allows you to keep your tomato plant consistently watered without the mess. To water using reservoir, use watering can or garden hose to add water through the rectangular opening in side of planter. Add water as needed to keep soil consistently moist.

## STEP 1: REMOVE ALL CONTENTS FROM THE TOMATO GROWER

Align the tabs on the reservoir platform with the grooves on the interior of the planter, making sure that the water flap is aligned with the rectangular opening on the side of the planter. Lower the reservoir platform (water flap facing up). Once platform is fully lowered and aligned, press down on the top of the water flap until it clicks into place across the top of the rectangular opening.

## STEP 2:

Slide triangular brackets (3) onto supports on interior wall of planter.

## STEP 3:

Insert support rods (3) into holes on topside of brackets.

## STEP 4:

Add potting soil, leaving approximately 1" of room at the top of the planter

## STEP 5:

Sow seeds (see "How to Sow" below)

## STEP 6:

Add circular connector.

## STEP 7:

Add rods and connectors until support structure is fully assembled; the completed support structure will have 4 tiers. You may choose to build the entire support structure at initial setup, or add sections as the tomato plant grows.



## HOW TO SOW:

Sow 1-3 tomato seeds 1/4" deep and lightly cover with soil. Place in a warm, bright location with ample air circulation; keep soil moist but not overwatered. Tomato seeds will germinate in 7-14 days. Once seedlings reach 3-5" tall, thin out the weaker seedlings leaving the strongest seedling to grow to maturity.

## GENERAL GROWING REQUIREMENTS FOR TOMATOES:

**LIGHT REQUIREMENTS:** Full Sun / 6-8 hours

**TEMPERATURE REQUIREMENTS:** Tomatoes are sensitive to cold; temperature below 55°F can interfere with pollination. Ideal temperature range: 70-85°F

**WATER REQUIREMENTS:** Keep moist but not overwatered. Water at base of plant to prevent fungal growth on leaves.

**NUTRIENT REQUIREMENTS:** Tomatoes are heavy feeders. Feed with water soluble organic fertilizer formulated for tomatoes; apply according to package instructions.

**HOW TO HARVEST:** Harvest when tomatoes turn from green to red and easily detach from the stem.