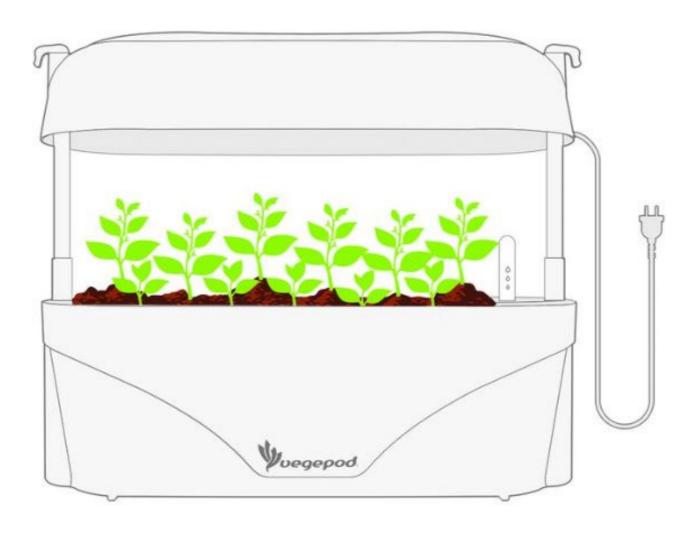
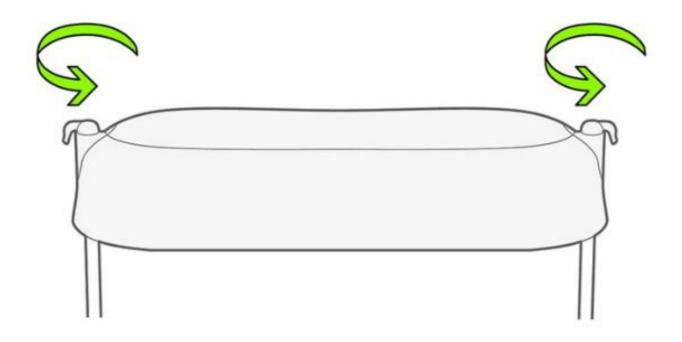


kitchen garden



Quick Start Guide

raise light hood



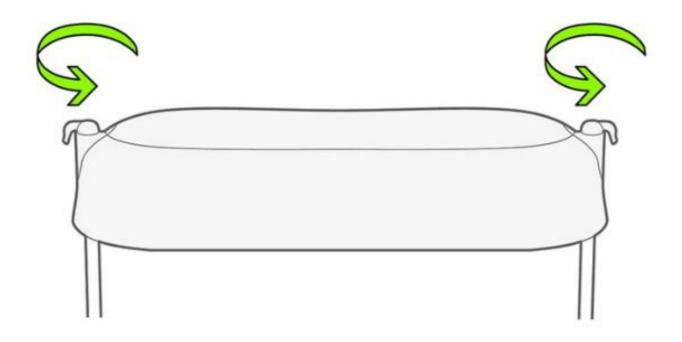
To UNLOCK - simultaneously rotate the levers counter-clockwise. Using both hands lift hood to maximum height (34cm/13.5in).

TIP: To unlock fully it requires rotating the levers 180 degrees (3 clicks)

Then LOCK by turning levers in opposite direction until firm.

Hood removal - page 7.

raise light hood



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TIP: To unlock fully it requires rotating the levers 180 degrees (3 clicks)

Then LOCK by turning levers in opposite direction until firm.

Hood removal - page 7.

fill with potting soil



It is recommended to fill and plant out the kitchen garden outside.

For best growing results use a high quality premium potting soil available at garden centres.

Requires 12litres/12.5quarts of potting soil.



Plant your seeds or seedlings/starters.

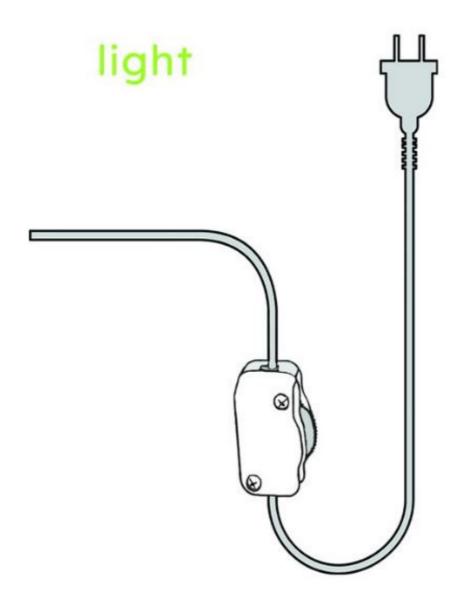
When planting seedlings/starters be sure to check plants thoroughly for pests before introducing into the kitchen garden.



Use a watering can for the initial watering. Ensure soil is wet thoroughly - approximately 3 litres (3/4 gallon).

Future watering is via the filler tube (weekly or as gauge indicates).

For optimal growth rates fill to 2nd level on gauge.



Plug the cord into a convenient outlet. Using the cord switch, turn the light on.

For maximum growth rates leave the light on for 16 hours a day. Switch on when you wake up and turn off when you go to bed. Or you can program via the wifi app.

Keeping the light close to the plants (50mm/2 inches) will increase growth rates. Move hood up as plants grow.

remove light hood



- 1. Raise hood to a convenient working height.
- Using a phillips-head screwdriver, undo the screws in the top of the levers.
- 3. Slide both levers up off the hood.
- 4. Using both hands slide the hood up off the brackets and carefully lay down.
- 5. Disconnect the cord unplug from light.
- 6. Twist brackets to raise or lower as needed.

wifi connection



Scan the QR code to download the app and follow the steps to connect.

* Requires 2.4g Wifi to connect to the light



- Download 'Smart Life Smart Living' app (scan QR code or search in your App store)
- 2. Your phone must be connected to 2.4g Wifi
- Turn Bluetooth ON
- 4. Sign up/register with your email address on the app
- Click 'Add Device'
- 6. On left Select 'Lighting'
- Click the first option 'Light Source (BLE+Wi-Fi)'
- 8. Click the button 'Confirm the indicator is blinking or breathing'
- 9. Select 'Blinking or breathing rapidly'
- 10. Enter your 2.4g Wifi Network name and password and click 'Next'
- 11. The Connecting Device screen will appear with a 2 minute timer
- Switch on the Kitchen Garden light manually with the cord switch, the light will be 'breathing'
- 13. Device added to the app!
- It will say Added successfully click on the pencil/edit button to edit the name e.g. Kitchen Garden

If you do not connect the first time, manually reset the light by switching it off, then turn on and off three times using the cord switch (leave it off now).

Click Retry and repeat steps 6 -12.

OR Close the window using the X and repeat steps 5-12.

Once added, click on the name of the device, the screen pops up to adjust Brightness and Scene. You can also click on the clock icon to set an On/Off schedule.

quick maintenance guide

soil

It is important to use a high quality potting soil as these have been created specifically for growing in containers. They provide superior drainage and have essential nutrients required for healthy happy plants.

watering

It is advised to water from above just the one time after planting. This gives the seedlings a chance to bed in and extend their roots to the reservoir. All subsequent waterings should be via the filler tube unless you are growing from seed - then it is best to keep top layer of soil moist until plants sprout. For best results keep the water level around the half mark to avoid over-watering.

light

Best growth rates are achieved with 16 hours of light. Keep the hood approximately 50mm (2 inches) above the tallest plant.

plants

Space plants as specified on packet or tag. Always remove any yellow or dead foliage as this will help avoid pests. Harvest regularly as this will promote new growth and allow the light to reach all plants evenly.

Kitchen Garden set up & growing tips

Set up

See 'Quick Start Guide' for easy set up.

What's included

- · Planter (includes brackets, drain tray, filler tube, insert, water gauge & lid)
- Hood (includes locking levers, screws, light & cord)
- Small bag with yellow sticky traps & user guide.

Positioning

The Kitchen Garden can go anywhere in your home – in the kitchen, on a table in your lounge room, in your basement or garage. It's up to you!

Filling

To gain better access for filling and planting your Kitchen Garden you can either raise the hood to its maximum height or remove it altogether for easy planting.

You can easily remove the hood by undoing the screws in the top of the levers. Take screws out, slide levers off then slide whole hood up and off the brackets. You can then manually unlock the brackets by twisting them and lowering so they are out of the way.

Choose the best soil - healthy soil is everything!

Soil:

- Choose a high-quality potting soil usually available from reputable garden centres or online.
- You will need approximately 12 litres/12.5 quarts of potting soil potting soil generally comes in larger bags (40 litres/44 quarts/1.5cuft). Use the balance for a future replant.
- Higher quality potting soils tend to drain better and have a better supply of nutrients which is essential for healthy, happy growing
- Fill to top rim of planter soil will compact after watering
- The soil is placed directly onto the drain tray, filling the wells these wells now become a wicking system – the soil in the wells draws water upwards from the reservoir feeding the plants roots

Planting

One of the many benefits of growing in soil is the unlimited variety of plants you can grow.

You can buy seedlings (starters) or grow from seed. There are thousands and thousands of edible plants available for growing in your Kitchen Garden.

Seedlings

These are small plants that are a week or two old. They are available for purchase at large hardware chains or garden centres. You can often buy packs of 6.

The biggest benefit of buying seedlings is that you can skip germination of seeds and have plants growing on day 1 as opposed to several weeks when planting seeds.

When buying live plants, it is a good idea to check for any bugs under leaves and on stems. Avoid any plants with holes in leaves as they are an indication of grubs. Aphids hide on the underside of leaves and are very small and sometimes difficult to spot.

Growing food is nature at its finest. Unfortunately, nature is difficult to control, and pests are part of nature that will affect growing success. Be vigilant and deal with issues as they arise. This will limit any negative impacts.

Seeds

Seeds are very inexpensive so provide great value for money when growing food. However, the consequence is that they take much longer to sprout. Seeds can take from a few days to a few weeks to sprout depending on the variety.

Sowing - You can scatter seeds on top of the soil or plant each seed directly into the soil. Follow the directions on the packet for best results. Once they sprout and are an inch or two high you can thin them out (transplant some so they are not too close together).

Seeds require more patience than seedlings but they also mean less pests may be introduced.

The simplest things to grow are leafy greens:

Lettuce Bok choy Spinach

Swiss Chard Kale Arugula

Herbs are ideal as they are used frequently while cooking:

Parsley Thyme Cilantro

Oregano Dill Chives

Basil Tarragon Rosemary

Other popular fruits and vegetables:

Strawberries Cherry Tomatoes Eggplant

Peppers Radishes Kohlrabi

It is possible to grow root vegetables – however it is best to choose miniature varieties if they are available.

Some common root vegetables:

Beets Carrots Onions

You can try to grow anything - experiment with some miniature varieties:

Dwarf tomatoes Beans Peas

Cucumber Squash Cabbage

Broccoli Spring Onions Garlic

Plant it out with your favourite herbs, leafy greens, microgreens, even dwarf tomatoes. You can also use the Kitchen Garden for raising seedlings (propagation).

Light

The Kitchen Garden is fitted with the latest technology when it comes to our LED grow lights. Designed for maximum growth rates our LED lights are good for 50,000 hours use. @ 16 hours a day that is 8 years. The hood should be positioned approximately 50mm or 2 inches above the tallest plants. It is more efficient if all plants are of a similar size.

As the plant grows you can raise the hood (light) to match the growth. This promotes growth rates by ensuring all plants receive the maximum amount of light.

The brackets that raise and lower the hood are twist-locking operated by the levers on top of the hood. It is advised to adjust both sides at the one time using both hands. The levers can sometimes require a small amount of force if you need to fully unlock. There are 3 clicks as you turn the levers, so if raising fully up make sure the levers are fully turned.

There is a small amount of heat produced by the LED light. This warmth can help promote growth rates also. When seeds are first planted you can lower the hood right down and create a type of microclimate. As the plants grow you can raise the light.

It is recommended to use the light for 16-18 hours a day. Simply turn the light on when you get up in the morning and switch off when you go to bed. Alternatively, you can use the 'app' to manage when the light comes on and how bright it is. To set up the app on your phone you will need to use the 2.4gb band on your home wifi. The instructions for setting this up are in the 'Quick Start Guide'.

Fungus Gnats

Fungus Gnats are small flying insects that are frequent to indoor growing. They feed off dead plant matter and will commonly be found buzzing around the soil. Fungus gnats appear whenever there is decaying matter in your house. It is prudent to remove all yellowing or brown leaves from your plants, this will reduce the chances of fungus gnats appearing.

We have supplied some 'yellow sticky traps' with the Kitchen Garden. If you see fungus gnats you can peel the backing paper off the sticky trap and place it around your plants using the supplied green mount. The gnats are attracted to the yellow colour and stick to the trap.

Maintenance

Ongoing maintenance is minimal. Once plants are established watering should be approximately once a week. Remember not to over water especially the surface soil.

The important thing is to remove all dead foliage. Basically, disregard anything you will not be eating. Removing the dead leaves will also make your garden look nicer as well as inhibiting pests.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

Basic precautions should always be followed when using the Kitchen Garden, including the following:

- Use the Kitchen Garden only for its intended use as described in the instructions. Do not use attachments not recommended by the manufacturer.
- To reduce the risk of electric shock, the Kitchen Garden has a specific plug. Do not alter the plug in any way.
- Always unplug the Kitchen Garden from the electrical outlet before cleaning or putting on/taking off parts.
- Do not operate the Kitchen Garden if it has a damaged cord or plug, if it is not working properly, if it
 has been dropped or damaged. If any of these conditions occur, please contact your countries local
 distributor for instructions.
- Keep the cord away from heated surfaces.
- Do not place or submerge the cord, plug or light hood in water or other liquid to clean it.
- 7. Do not allow water to come in contact with the LED grow light.
- Use only approved and supplied parts and accessories. Use of any other kind of accessory is not recommended. Replacements parts can be ordered from your local distributor.
- This product is intended for household and residential use only. It is not approved for commercial applications.
- 10. Electrical wiring must be in accordance with local regulations.
- Please take proper precautions when operating the Kitchen Garden near or by individuals requiring close supervision, including children.

Warranty

- The warranty runs for 1 year on the Kitchen Garden and Grow Light, from the date of original purchase.
- 2. Improper use of the Kitchen Garden or any associated products will void the warranty.
- The warranty covers any defects in materials or workmanship, with the exceptions listed below.
- 4. The warranty shall not apply to problems arising from: normal wear; failure to adhere to enclosed operating instructions; products subject to negligence, accident, improper use, maintenance or storage; products damaged by circumstances beyond the control of the manufacturer; loss or damage to removable parts; or products modified or repaired by anyone other than the manufacturer, or its designee. This warranty excludes all incidental or consequential damages.
- Vegepod, at its option, will repair any defects in materials or workmanship or will replace the product with one of similar features and price. Vegepod's sole obligation and your exclusive remedy under this warranty shall be limited to such repair or replacement.
- If you have questions or concerns regarding your Kitchen Garden, please contact customer service in your country.

Watering

The Kitchen Garden has an inbuilt sub-irrigation system. Essentially this means that watering the plants is achieved via the reservoir. The reservoir capacity is 3 Litres or 0.79 gallons. There is a filler tube inside the planter – simply remove the cap and pour water straight into the tube. This will fill the reservoir and supply water to the plant's roots.

So efficient is this watering method that over-watering is more harmful than under-watering. It is ideal to keep the water level between the lower mark and the mid-level mark on the water gauge.

It is fine for the soil to appear dry on top (this also inhibits fungus gnats) as the lower soil will still contain enough moisture to sustain the plants.

If you water directly onto the soil please give it time to register on the water gauge, take care not to over water. Over watering is more detrimental to plant growth rates than under watering.

If plants begin to wilt it may be a sign that they need watering.

There is an overflow hole underneath the drain tray. It comes with a rubber plug under the planter so as not to leak from over watering. Check the water gauge and do not fill past the mid-level mark.

Seedlings

Once you have planted your seedlings then water them in using a small watering can. Ensure soil is wet through – approx. 3 litres (0.79 gallons). This will be the only time you water from above. All future waterings will be via the filler tube. For maximum growth rates keep water level below the middle indicator. If the gauge is showing empty, it is not a problem. The soil will still be holding enough moisture to sustain the plants for a week or more.

Seeds

Once you have planted your seeds it is important to keep the top of the soil moist until they sprout. Give them a light water immediately after planting and then every 2 or 3 days. Once they sprout give them one last good watering, so the reservoir shows about half full. All subsequent waterings will be via the filler tube as required.

Pests

Nature

Growing food means you are working with Nature, which is a positive experience that provides many benefits for you and your family. Soil is the only natural growing medium which means you may encounter pests from time to time. Pests are easily controlled if you manage them early on in the growth cycle. Nature creates the soil and soil oftentimes contains the microscopic larvae and eggs of pests that can harm your plants.

Controlling Nature is not easily accomplished. Bugs, grubs and microbes are part of nature and so will be part of your growing experience.

Early detection is best as most things can be eradicated easily if noticed early on. Here are a few common pests you may encounter.

We don't promote the use of insecticides to control pests as many use chemicals that can be detrimental to one's health.

Grubs

Grubs come from eggs laid on the underside of leaves and are microscopic. The first sign you will see is a hole in the leaf. Once they hatch, they will begin eating immediately, luckily they are small so don't eat too much – but this also makes them hard to spot. Simply pull them off and throw them outside.

Aphids

Aphids are tiny bugs that live on the underside of leaves. They are often introduced via seedlings and are difficult to spot early on. They do not cause visible damage as they eat the plants sap and so are not easily noticeable. Once discovered you can knock them off or spray water to dislodge them. Plants will still grow with aphids (although slowed) and you can still harvest the produce – simply rinse the leaves before eating.