

# LIVE & GROW



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# Welcome

Things are happening here at Oderings; not only are we gearing up for our genuine Easter sale, we are also super excited that our first new-look Oderings store at the Cashmere branch is due to open any day now, with Philpotts next on the list. Thank you to the long-suffering customers and staff at Cashmere who have put up with the old building with water running through it in the winter and the disruption of creating the new building. We hope you enjoy this superb new shop, and in September, its new cafe.

What do you think of this new-look Oderings 'Live & Grow' magazine? There is a standout superstar product on page 16 for any gardener who has ever had to spray their plants for pests; do not miss this page. Also, what an amazing cover! This flower-growing arrangement, along with plenty more, is arriving in stores from our Oderings Wholesale Team, ready for a massive display of colour.

Please enjoy the information, inspiration and knowledge this 'Live & Grow' provides. Our staff do an amazing job contributing their knowledge and experiences to help make this magazine work. However, you, our wonderful customers, really allow us to continue doing the job we love, so from the Oderings Family and staff, thank you for choosing to shop with us.

Happy Gardening,

**Pamela Smith**

*Editor*



Cover shot: *Chrysanthemum 'Umbrella'*.

## Live & Grow

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**Cashmere** 03 338 5193  
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**Linwood** 03 982 3498  
485 Linwood Ave, Christchurch

**Philpotts** 03 385 2386  
116 Philpotts Rd, Christchurch

**Yaldhurst** 03 342 9198  
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**Hamilton** 07 855 6064  
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**Havelock North** 06 877 3051  
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11 Allen Rd, Pakowhai

**Palmerston North** 06 356 6797  
136 Cook St, West End

**Upper Hutt** 04 939 1020  
1066 Fergusson Drive, Clouston Park

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 **ODERINGS**  
GARDEN CENTRES



## CHRYSANTHEMUM 'UMBRELLA'

In this case, a picture speaks a thousand words and Chrysanthemum 'Umbrella', with its dense covering of flowers, makes a fantastic autumn display. It is a classic addition for brightening the autumn garden. 'Garden Mums', as they are commonly known, should be planted in well-drained soil in sun; although they will grow in partial shade they may get leggy when reaching for sunlight. Remember to feed the plants in spring with Oderings Total Replenish.

As the name 'Umbrella' suggests the combination of plants in 10 litre pots will provide a riot of magnificent colour, but if you decide you want a simpler planting scheme there are also single colours of lime, white, red, pink, orange or rose available.



*Lewisia*

The herb chocolate mint is pure indulgence without any calories. What a magnificent combination chocolate and mint are!

Chocolate mint, as the name suggests, is a herb with beautifully balanced flavours of chocolate and spearmint. Before I tried this herb, I was mildly sceptical, but once it was in my mouth I was surprised to find that it was as delicious as it sounds.

Chocolate mint does not need a lot of care. It likes moist soil and semi-shade, so water it regularly. Although the plant will probably survive a few dry spells, do not let it dry out too often. Just like common mint, keep your chocolate mint in containers to prevent it from spreading.

Lewisias are relatively easy care plants for a rock garden or container. They have fleshy leaves and are a drought-tolerant perennial that flowers twice a year, in autumn and spring, delivering an intensely coloured display of flowers useful in brightening baskets, planters or gardens. For best results, simply plant them in a (mostly) sunny site that has free-draining soil and is sufficiently dry in the winter.



*Chocolate Mint*



*Viola Ravenclaw*



*Viola Ice Queen*

New violas 'Ravenclaw' and 'Ice Queen' both bring something beautiful, different and unique to your garden. These wee beauties have bicoloured flowers that portray both warm and cool seasons all in one. Bred to flower non-stop, they are very hardy and stay compact at a height of just 15cm.

'Ravenclaw' has warm yellow tones, fading to bronze with vivid violet petal tops, whereas 'Ice Queen' reminds me of snow in the Southern Alps with its flowers of white, which fade through to primrose, and petals capped with blue tips.



# HELLEBORUS WINTER ROSE

In my opinion the winter rose, or hellebore, is one of the best winter flowering plants; of course they are not actually roses but are in fact closely related to the colorful ranunculus family.

Helleborus is a genus of evergreen perennials with beautiful, open, cup-shaped flowers which provide welcome splashes of colour during late winter and early spring at a time in the garden where flowers are lacking. Hellebores' colours are mostly shades of purples and pinks. However, with some fantastic breeding over recent years hybridisers have produced a wider range of colours,

including white, soft pinks and rose, wine red and claret, lime green and yellow. There are even some with deeper reverse colourings and others that are beautifully spotted, splashed or marbled with other colours. As if that were not enough there are double helleborus, which are simply charming.

Plant hellebores in semi-shade or in woodland areas under trees, always making sure the soil is enriched with organic matter such as Oderings Compost. Although hellebores are relatively pest free, slug bait is recommended to keep your plants looking great.



1. White Magic – a pure white, New Zealand raised hybrid. 2. Petticoat Pinks – glorious shades of deep pink flowers. 3. Petticoat Lemon & Lime – stunning, yellow to lime-green shades. 4. Petticoat Purples – delightful dark, rich, cool mixtures of mauves, and deep pinks, to chocolatey purples. 5. Petticoat Confetti – this mix has been selected for flower size, colour and stem length. A lucky dip of colours which could be pure white to green shades, or spotted pinks to deep maroon, some of which almost look black. 6. Lemon Falls – leathery leaves and nodding, lemon-green cup-shaped flowers, the petals of which are tipped purple. 7. Petticoat Double White – a stunning double white, a standout for the garden.

# Autumn '16



NO Wasps Eliminator incorporates a new dual-action formula that kills wasps and destroys nests with an easy-to-use puff pack to access hard-to-reach places.



Combat for Roses is a three-in-one rose and ornamental spray, combining an insecticide and fungicide with a natural fish fertiliser that has minerals and trace elements essential for healthy plants.



Purple Bean & Pea Rings are made in the UK and are ideal for use with runner beans, peas or sweet pea plants, holding up to eight bamboo canes, which simply clip into place.



Bulbs are arriving daily and with many new additions. Watch out for the new tulip 'Feather Flag', tulip 'Alibi', daffodil 'Art Perfume', muscari 'Peppermint' or fritillaria 'Persica', all of which are beautiful in their own right.



A new impressive range of watering guns from Gardena with an innovative and integrated technology that protects them from frost.



The Showa 306 glove is the gardener's friend with a soft comfort and premium fit that is both water repellent and breathable, stopping perspiration. The ergonomic design is also said to reduce hand fatigue.



The A-Frame Cake Feeder is an attractive locally made feeder plus energy cake in one – perfect for attracting waxeyes and most domestic bird species to your garden.



'Molly's White' hellebore has heavily silver-veined dark green leaves that are topped with outward-facing, saucer-shaped flowers that are white with a green flush.



Superstrike Stadium Lawn Seed is a stadium-quality lawn for your backyard that germinates in as little as seven days and withstands temperatures down to 5°C.



# GERANIUM ROZANNE

For a plant that is flirtatious and robust, with an energetic growth habit, the Geranium 'Rozanne' is most definitely a garden-worthy choice. No matter your gardening experience this lovely, hardy perennial grows well for everyone producing sophisticated flowers that are displayed from spring until late summer with loose clusters of bright violet-purple cup-shaped flowers.

Aside from a brilliant gap filler or border plant in a flowering garden this geranium is also ideal for containers or hanging baskets, spilling beautifully and creating an almost rustic English themed display. Incorporate Geranium 'Rozanne' with yellow to add a vibrant pop, other blues and reds for a bold and dramatic display, or subtle shades of lavender, lime or magenta for a romantic colour scheme.

Plant this geranium anywhere from sun to shade, in hot or cool areas, but the most ideal place is in semi-shade with afternoon shade. Prune the plant by  $\frac{1}{2}$  if the flowers are slow in hot months; this will get another burst of blooms. Although it will die down after the first frosts in late autumn the plants will reemerge bigger and better the following spring. Overall growth is around 40cm tall by 40cm wide.

With an abundance of flowers, for such a long period of time, Geranium 'Rozanne' is a tried and true garden performer.



# Unusual Vegetables

If you are not satisfied with just potatoes and three other vegetables then look no farther. You no longer need to go to a restaurant if you are looking to add some unique and unusual ingredients to your cooking. Indulge your palate and add some variety to your diet through colour, flavour and texture.

## **BROCCOFLOWER**

This vibrant green 'cauliflower' has a broccoli-like taste with a lime green cauliflower appearance. Substitute for cauliflower or broccoli, with its mild, tender and slightly sweeter flavour. Beware of overcooking; broccoflower is lovely when eaten raw or smoked (whole) in the BBQ.





## CAVOLO NERO

Also often called black kale or black cabbage the Cavolo Nero is a part of the borecole family and is used in the same way as its cousin kale. This vegetable is becoming more and more popular because of its delicious rich taste, which is intense and pleasantly tangy in flavour with a slightly sweet aftertaste. The attractive crinkled leaves become more crinkled and sweeter in the colder temperatures. Avoid overcooking this vegetable, just flash fry it in stir fries, boil and blanch quickly, serve raw chopped through salads or add it to smoothies.



## RAINBOW BEETROOT

Visually stunning with contrasting and vibrant skins, flesh, stems and leaves, each rainbow beetroot has a unique, deliciously sweet flavour. Eaten hot or cold, pickled or sliced raw into a salad this root vegetable will add a visual punch as well as flavour. Cook gently in salted water for 20 minutes and dress with a spiced honey vinegar, or roast for 40 minutes with a little oil and sprinkling of sea salt or balsamic vinegar. It is easier to peel the skin off once the root is cooked. To avoid stained hands coat them in olive oil before handling the root. These beetroot can be harvested as baby beets or left to fully mature over 60 days.



## RAINBOW CARROTS

Carrots are the most basic and easy-to-grow vegetables in the garden. In general carrots offer 20% of your daily vitamin K needs and also have potassium, which helps to reduce blood pressure, but rainbow carrots offer more than just colour and beauty, with different flavours and more health benefits than the traditional orange carrot. Whereas orange carrots are essential for healthy eye development, the purple carrots have nutrients that may also help heart disease. The nutrients in red carrots are linked to a lower risk of certain cancers and the yellow carrot has nutrients that are linked to both cancer prevention and better eye health. The benefits of white carrots lie in their fibre, which aids digestion. Rainbow carrots do have different flavours; the white is mild, whereas the purple is sweeter than the traditional orange. Tantalise your taste buds and try some rainbow carrots.



## KOHLRABI

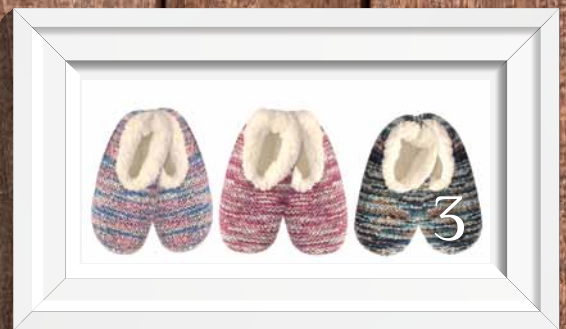
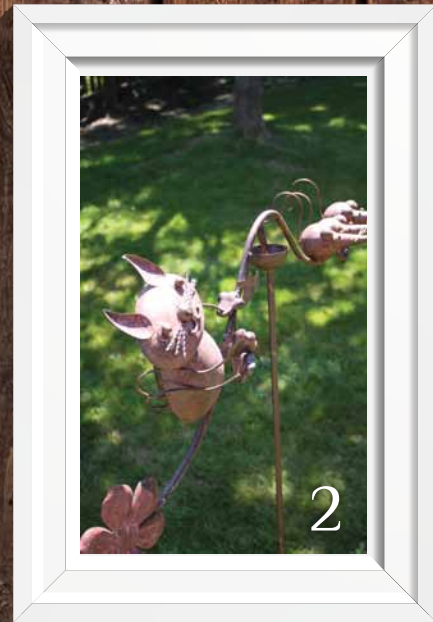
This is a vegetable that is versatile, with a vibrantly fresh flavour. 'Kohlrabi' means cabbage-turnip and this combination perfectly describes the texture and flavour, which is mild and sweet. Before eating or cooking remove the leaves and peel it as you would an apple. Serve fresh and thinly sliced for a crisp and crunchy salad or grate into coleslaw as a cabbage substitute; otherwise chop into chunks and roast.



## CELERIAC

Although a close relative of celery, celeriac is much easier to grow. This long-lasting vegetable will keep for four to six months in the fridge and offers a crisp and delicious flavour that is reminiscent of celery, apples and walnuts. Once you've grown and tasted this exquisite flavour you will realise that the ugliness of this vegetable is immaterial. It is great peeled and thinly sliced raw in salads. It is also beautiful in soups, roasted or mashed, but this versatile vegetable can also be baked, boiled, braised, microwaved, steamed, stewed or stir-fried. Peel before use and don't use the stalks or leaves as they are bitter. As celeriac can discolour quickly after chopping you may need to immerse it in water if you are not ready to use immediately.

# THE GIFT STORE



- 1) Bird Feeders priced from **\$54.99** to **\$149.99** (one featured is Bungalow Birdhouse \$149.99)
- 2) Animal Branch **\$59.99**
- 3) Slumbies Premium **\$29.99**  
- Slumbies Original **\$26.99**
- 4) Petal Bunny **\$29.99**
- 5) Bucket List **\$19.99**

# Grafting

Did you know if you plant the seed of an apple, this seed will produce an apple tree but it will not produce the same apple as the one whose seed you planted. In other words, fruit trees do not reproduce 'true' to the original when cultivated from seed. Grafting provides the only means of reproducing fruit trees with the fruit of the desired parent stock.

Grafting is a horticulture technique that merges one part of a plant, the scion, to another closely related species, the rootstock. The rootstock provides the strength, whereas, the scion is the part that produces fruit and flowers. Eventually the scion and rootstock merge to become one tree. Grafting the two together provides the vitality, sap flow and extra disease resistant qualities needed to give high yields. Almost all fruit trees, including citrus, which we sell to the home gardeners, are grafted.

There are many different styles of grafting, but the basics remain the same. The scion is grafted to the rootstock by connecting the cambium layers (which lie just below the bark) and securing them with grafting tape. If the two sections are compatible they will eventually heal together and the scion will begin to grow. Your rootstock and scion can be planted in containers or the garden.



## You Will Need:

- Grafting or budding knife
- Grafting tape
- Secateurs
- A knife or chisel
- A hammer or mallet
- Bleach
- Water

## Method:

1) Split the rootstock so that it is ready to insert the scion, this split should be about three to four centimetres long. Use a clean knife, or if the wood is quite thick you will need a chisel; hammer it lightly to split the rootstock. Make sure your cutting tool is clean by dipping it in a mixture of one part bleach to ten parts water; this will stop the spread of disease and help to prevent infection.

2) Prepare the scion by turning it into a wedge shape; you do this by slicing down both sides of the wood with a grafting knife. Keep both sides of the wedge moist as you work.

3) Push the trimmed scion into the rootstock split until it can go no farther. It is essential that no cut wound on the scion is visible above the rootstock.

4) Use grafting tape and wrap it around the rootstock and the scion; this is waterproof and airtight, stops the new graft site from drying out, and prevents the risk of air borne fungus, disease or water pooling in the wound.

5) After one year remove the grafting tape, the graft should show early signs of merging.

6) In the second year, the merge between rootstock and scion should be complete, and the exposed wood closed off. This process continues as the tree grows.

Other grafted trees include specimen trees like magnolias, flowering cherries and maples. Grafting also works on vegetables such as tomatoes, cucumbers and eggplants, as well as grapes, among others.

*Rootstock* – can be grown from apple pips, or an existing tree which is growing well but does not fruit. You can also take cuttings from apples, plums, pears and cherries. Let these cuttings or seeds grow until you have a healthy specimen with a woody stem that is at least as thick as your little finger.

*Scion* – do not let it dry out, stand it in a glass of water until you are ready to use it. Also, check that your scion has two to four buds facing upwards. Take the scion from a variety of fruit tree that you want to grow after ensuring that the scion and rootstock are harmonious family members.

# Geometric Trend



1



2



3



4



5

- 1) Wall Heart Vase White **\$44.99**
- 2) Geometric Stag **\$89.99**
- 3) Round Dipped Pot Small **\$14.99**  
– Round Dipped Pot Large **\$24.99**
- 4) Diamond Line Planter White **\$24.99**
- 5) Geometric Rhino **\$54.99**

# Six-Tip Lawn Makeover

Lawns are often underrated by homeowners and gardeners alike. They're such a great way to really showcase your home – a lush green lawn sets off the rest of your garden and home beautifully.

Try these tips to give your lawn either a complete makeover or perhaps just a quick facelift.

1. Get rid of lawn weeds – This is a great way to improve the look of your lawn for the long term. Yates Turfix is available either as a ready-to-use trigger gun or as a concentrate for larger lawns. This is a clever three-way formulation that controls a range of broadleaf weeds, including thistles, daisies, clovers, docks and dandelion, in lawns without harming your grass.
2. Lawns need lots of feeding – Lawns use lots of nutrients because they are endlessly growing and getting mown. Feed lawns at least twice a year, ideally in spring and autumn.
3. Deal with feeding and weeding in one easy step – If tip 1 and 2 sound too much like hard work, then look for a double-action solution such as Yates 'Weed 'n' Feed'. This will kill weeds and feed and green lawns at the same time. Available in either a hose-on or a granular form. The granular is great for smaller lawns or those concerned about the liquid accidentally spraying their precious plants, whereas the hose-on is fast to use with a great coverage.
4. Over-sow to "top up" grass that dies – Did you know 25% of your lawn dies each year? Sowing new grass seed over an existing lawn at least once a year is a very effective way to improve your lawn's appearance. Chat to the Oderings friendly staff for the seed that best suits your lawn.
5. Protect from lawn pests – If you have unexplained bare patches and your lawn is not thriving, you may have insects in your lawn. Try Yates 'Complete Lawn Insect Control' for controlling insects above and below the ground, including troublesome porina and grass grub plus black beetle, army worm, cut worm, crickets and ants.
6. Fix bare patches – If the dogs or kids have left bare patches or you have holes left from killing lots of weeds, it's time to repair the patch. For quick repair jobs Yates 'Easy Patch' is a super-easy 4-in-1 solution with seed, fertiliser, wetting agent and coir (coconut fibre) for an instant seed bed.

Thanks to Fiona Arthur from Yates for supplying this article.



Great gardens are Yates gardens®



Cottage  
Garden  
Charm

Cottage gardens look hard to maintain but in actuality are really easy. It's all about picking the right plants, with the right colours and textures. I once read that 'Cottage gardens are an attitude not a location, all you need is a willingness to play with your garden and a passion for plants'. While formal gardens thrive on clean, neat lines of a few selected plants, cottage gardens feel relaxed and tranquil with harmonious flowers in a variety of colours using group plantings.

My number one tip for creating a cottage garden would be to choose a focal point. In traditional English gardens we often see gazebos, water features, trellises or archways, small sheds or cottages, garden seats or bird feeders; but I love the idea of a randomly placed brightly painted door or window box that invites the viewer to imagine what is behind this secret garden.

Start small and don't create a garden that is too large for you to care for; by starting out small you can grow your cottage space as your confidence grows, adding in pathways and pockets of colour as you go. Also choose plants which are right for your environment. Is your garden in shade or sun, wet or dry, frosty or protected? Make life easier and plant the correct plants the first time.

Think about the colours you would like in your garden. Generally the best looking cottage gardens have varying foliage shapes and textures but with colours that repeat; these repeating colours give a sense of balance and harmony in the garden. My favourite colour combos in a cottage garden are pink, purple and white, and I simply love yellow and lilac combined. What colours would you like? The only limit is your imagination.

Keep the plant choices traditional. If you look at cottage gardens there is always a theme of the 'old fashioned' favourites. This is because they perform to a high standard and are almost bulletproof, making them the ideal choice in a cottage themed patch. The good news is there is no right or wrong way to create a cottage garden, so if you decide to try a grouping of something a bit different, start small and if it works expand from there; plant what you love!

When planting decide on a shape that will fit well within your space, generally a repeating pyramid shape works best. Keep tall grasses or evergreens in the back 1/3, in the middle have a mixture of medium growers, and incorporate low level ground covers at the front, which will spill out onto walkways and other areas. Repeat colours within each space. Also you don't want the cottage garden to look formal, therefore the sizes need to look randomly (but strategically) placed rather than perfectly sloping. Mix it up; there are no wrongs or rights.

### Cottage Choices

**Annuals** – are used for impact planting; most will self-seed and will come up year after year. Annuals provide the year-round colour, so you will need a spring and autumn planting. If starting from seed rake over a bare patch of soil, then use the back of the rake to level the soil. Use the back of the rake to make a small indentation in the soil, then sprinkle seed into this indentation. Use the back of the rake again to level, then water in well. Do this up to 3–5 times in each planting pyramid, with two different seed selections in each. You can of course use already growing annuals; plant in groups of five plants for impact. Ideal annuals to use are Calendula, Viola, Lobelia, Alyssum, Cosmos, Sunflower, Dianthus, Zinnia, Antirrhinum, Salvia, Aster, Bellis, Sweet William, Wallflower, Pansy, Poppy, Primula, Sweet Pea and Lupin.

**Perennials** – are essential for a colourful cottage garden full of flowers, heights and textures. All perennials grow to different heights so take this into account and

then plant the taller ones like hollyhock, delphiniums and foxgloves strategically. Don't plant them all at the back; place them into your pyramid for dimension. Plant all perennials in clumps of 2–3 identical plants. Ideal perennial plants to use are Penstemon, Foxglove, Catmint, Statice, Lavender, Holyhock, Delphinium, Aquilegia, Cornflower, Phlox, Russian Sage, Salvia, Ladies Mantle, Lambs Ear, Daylily, Echinacea, Pulmoneria, Bergenia, Campanula, Heuchera, Daisy, Iris, Perennial Geranium, Anemone, Helleborus, Veronica, plus many more.

**Shrubs** – are the backbone to a cottage pyramid and you should have only one to each zone. Plants to use are Hydrangea, Rose, Conifer, Buxus, Miniature Maple, Citrus, Flowering Cherry, Crabapple, Azalea, Camellia, Rock Rose, Daphne, Mock Orange, Pieris.

**Climbers** – by incorporating climbers over a trellis, archway or up a gazebo you provide a beautiful backdrop. Use Wisteria, Rose, Climbing Hydrangea, Ivy, Hybrid Clematis, Jasmine, Honeysuckle, Hardenbergia.

**Bulbs/corms** – the worlds your oyster but traditionally use Daffodil, Bluebell, Tulip, Peony, Lily of the Valley, Anemone.



# DIATOMACEOUS EARTH

With many insecticides being reclassified by the World Health Organization and banned throughout the world, New Zealand is proactively reviewing the use of toxins and introducing new restrictions. With this in mind most keen gardeners are looking for eco-friendly and safer alternatives that are not harmful to their families and pets, while still being effective in controlling damaging garden insects. Known as "DE Earth", Oderings staff and customers who have used this product feel it is one of the best products for its cost effectiveness, ease of use, versatility and most importantly results. Here at Oderings we are always looking for brilliant products that have been tested and which our staff are confident in.

Natural DEBug Diatomaceous Earth Insect Dust is a natural, organic abrasive powder made from the fossilised remains of ancient algal shells called diatoms, a type of phytoplankton. DE is used as an insecticide with physico-sorptive properties; this refers to the physical process by which the diatomaceous earth absorbs lipids from the waxy outer layer of insects' exoskeletons, causing dehydration. By cracking open their joints and rubbing holes through their outer shells, the DE kills bugs quickly.

This all-natural, organic product is nontoxic, chemical free, non-staining and environmentally friendly with no withholding period. It is great for aphids, caterpillars,

earwigs, beetles, fruit flies, borers, thrips, scale, mealy bug, mites and much more and can be used with some effectiveness for slugs and snails. It is also great around the home for fleas, spiders, cockroaches and other pests. DEBug is the only Biopro organic certified DE in New Zealand for pest and disease management for the home gardener.

As you can see DE is a pretty amazing product. Also available from Oderings is the DEGranules Soil Conditioner. DEGranules is a diatomaceous earth soil conditioner that improves aeration and water retention in your soils. It can be blended with fertilisers or used as an additive to potting mixes or existing soils in the garden or pots, making this product a natural alternative to water crystals.

The DE range is well worth a look. These cost-effective products have rave reviews from our staff and customers alike. Every staff member who has tried them believes they work better than the chemical alternatives, which in my book easily ticks all the boxes. More information can be found at [www.diatomaceousearth.co.nz](http://www.diatomaceousearth.co.nz).

**Top Tip** – When using the DEBug, mix four grams per litre of water and spray over your plants. Although you can use this product as a powder, our staff trials show it's much more effective and easier to use as a liquid.



## EASY FLEECE JACKETS

As autumn approaches and early frosts threaten, Haxnicks Easy Fleece Jackets make it simple to protect exotic, tender and other semi-hardy plants. They give instant protection whilst allowing air to filter through maintaining healthy growth. Perfect for over wintering large container & patio plants, ie Citrus or protecting specialised plants in the garden. Available in 2 sizes.





# DIY Garden Tent

IF YOU WANT A 30-MINUTE PROJECT THAT WILL PROVIDE THE KIDS WITH HOURS OF FUN, THEN THIS IS THE PROJECT FOR YOU.

## You Will Need:

- 1 double duvet cover
- 1 ball of string
- 11x 2.4m bamboo sticks
- Scissors
- Secateurs
- A helper

## Method:

1) Deconstruct the duvet leaving one long seam intact and cut all other seams open.

2) Create the base support. On a flat surface lay out four of your bamboo stakes to create a rectangle. Using the string, tie all the corners together making sure you create a few loops over the bamboo in a figure eight. Cut off any excess bamboo with your secateurs.

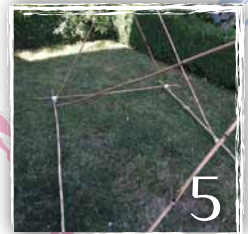
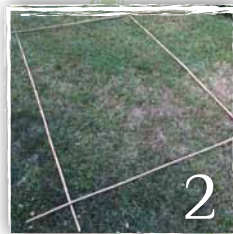
3) Create the 'A' frame support. Get two stakes and create an 'A' with a 10cm crossover at the top. Your support beam will rest here. Have your helper hold the bamboo at the top point while you tie the 'A' frame on the inside to one end of the 'base support' frame. Then repeat this process at the other end.

4) When you have tied the two 'A's' securely, place the support beam in the crossover section and tie it all together.

5) Make your A-frame tent stable. Use two bamboo stakes diagonally. Tie these on to the base and the support beam.

6) Create the canopy. The duvet seam that you left intact is placed on the 'support beam' and the material drapes down either side to the base.

7) Make the tent pretty. Using your ball of string, secure the duvet to the base by creating small incisions with the scissors and tying a bow. Then sit back and admire your handiwork.



A photograph of a home's entranceway featuring a dark door, white siding, and various decorative items like a hat, flowers, and a striped cushion. A large text overlay is centered in the image.

ENTRANCEWAY  
MAKEOVER

# 1 ENTRANCEWAY, 3 STYLES

The entranceway is the first thing you or your visitor sees when coming to your home, and this space greets us and creates the first impression for your guests. Despite this, entranceways and home foyers are often forgotten about. Generally, this is because we do not know what to do, what will look good or what could grow in that space. Let us help you with creating a well-kept entrance way with fabulous styling techniques, all through some easy design tips and basic do-it-yourself (DIY) projects that will look good in anyone's entranceway.

**Keep it simple** – Entranceways are a mini space. Make sure you pick a simplistic style you love and can follow through with.

**Who are you?** – Think about this space and figure out what style or theme you currently have in your home. Use that as an influence to dress the entranceway, remembering that the entranceway is an extension of your home and yourself.

**Layering is your friend** – This technique is naturally pleasant to the eye. The decorative elements that you add to the space should vary in height and depth so play around with repetition, e.g., two candle sticks at two different heights.

**Do not be afraid to use colour** – Injecting colour into your space is easy. Select a monochromatic scheme, such as blacks, whites and shades of grey, then add an accent colour; this could be tiny hints of baby pink, yellow or anything that appeals.

**Living things** – Always have a plant or fresh flowers at the entranceway. This does not mean you need to create an exotic jungle, but the organic form of something natural makes the entire space more welcoming.

**Splurge** – Spend on a high ticket item and do not feel bad about it. This may be a feature chair, a beautiful pot or a gorgeously shaped topiary. This is the focal point and an investment piece.

**Lighting** – Creates a warm and inviting mood. Make an effort by lighting candles or twirling some fairy lights around a tree or an obelisk and impress your guests.

**Odd numbers not even** – You may have heard this before and this rule is in existence for a reason – nature rarely deals in even numbers. Experiment with clusters of threes and fives.

**Mix old and new** – Go for a rummage through the 'op shop' and have fun. It's all about textures, colours and layering.

**Paint something** – Have you considered painting your front door a feature colour? How about painting stripes on your ceiling or making your decking a bright colour? Be courageous and try using saturated colours.

**If in doubt, add a chair** – By adding a chair you get an instant cosy feel, which translates to an instant welcome, add some cushions and voila, you have created an inviting entranceway.

Many of the items used here are available in store or online at [www.oderings.co.nz](http://www.oderings.co.nz)



## CRAFTY DIY

### PAINTED POTS



### DECORATIVE JARS



### SACK CUSHIONS



For instructions on how to create your own crafty decor, go to [www.oderings.co.nz](http://www.oderings.co.nz) or follow us on Pinterest.



All fruit trees require training and pruning to develop proper shape and form, to yield high-quality fruit and to live significantly longer. It is important to begin training and pruning from planting to ensure good development and growth.

### Pruning vs. Training

Historically fruit tree form and structure has been maintained by pruning. Tree training is a much more efficient way to develop form and structure. Pruning is the removal of a portion of the tree to correct or maintain tree structure. Training is a relatively new practice in which tree growth is directed into a desired shape. Training young fruit trees is essential for proper tree development. It is better to direct tree growth with training than to correct it with pruning. Training includes summer training and summer pruning as well as dormant (winter) pruning. The goal of tree training is to direct tree growth and minimise cutting.

### Dormant Pruning

Dormant pruning increases the vigour of the tree and vegetative growth, which is usually not desirable. Pruning should begin as late in the winter as possible but before the sap begins to flow.

### Summer Pruning and Training

Pruning normally starts after vegetative growth is several centimetres long with the removal of unwanted shoots. Main shoots and branches should be encouraged to grow where required by using weights and ties. Remove or trim back new growth to promote the desired shape of the tree.

### Central Leader Training

A central leader tree has one main, upright trunk with whorls of branches, usually beginning 60–90cm above the ground, then again every 45–60cm up the trunk. The shape of a central leader tree is like that of a Christmas tree, where the lowest branches are the longest and the branches get shorter higher up the trunk.

### Open Centre or Vase Training

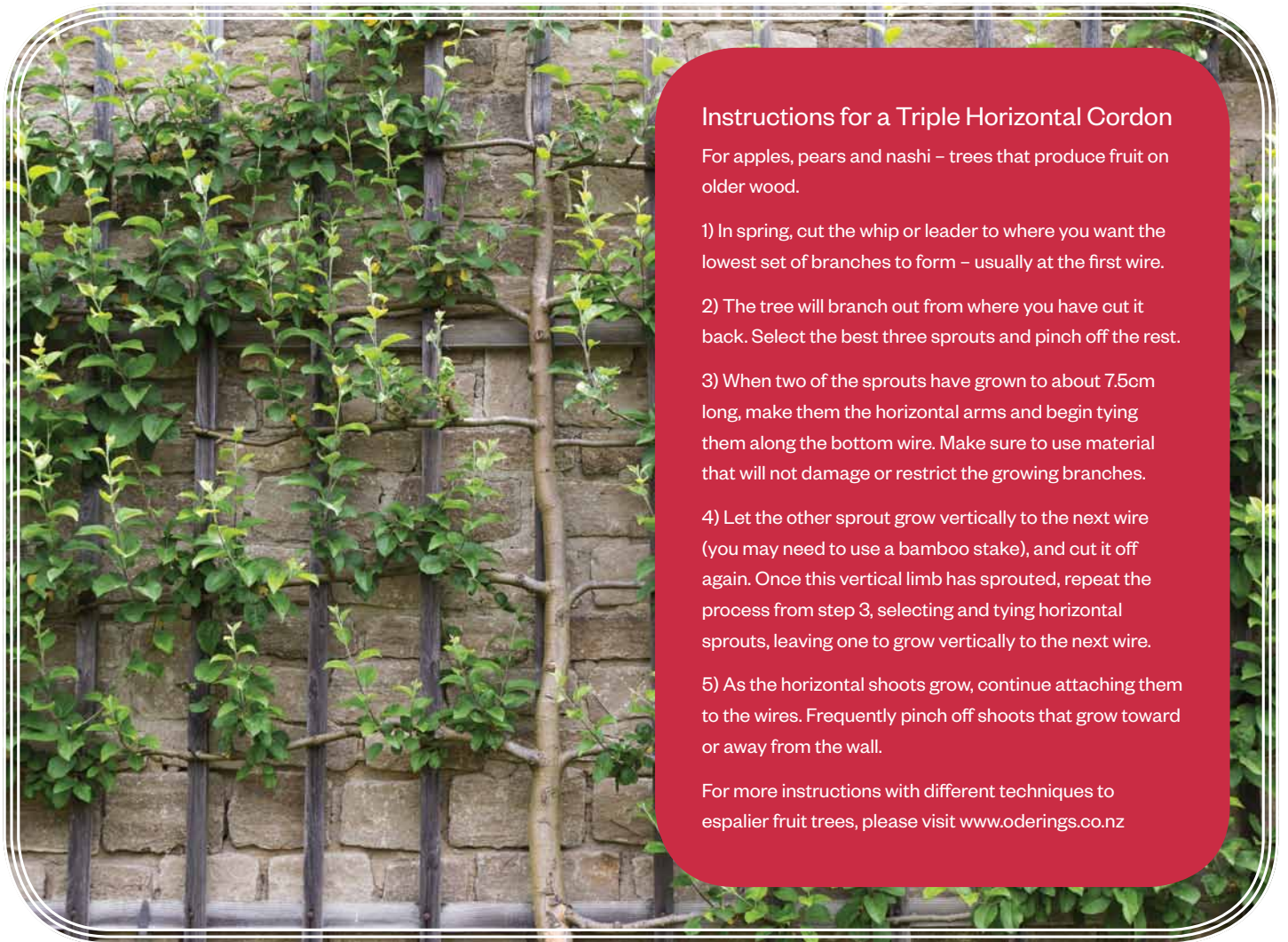
With the open vase system, the leader is removed and three to five major limbs are developed as the basic shape of the tree. This training system allows for maximum light penetration.

### How to Espalier Fruit Trees

Espalier trees are often grown against a wall, traditionally brick or plaster, but wires between posts can be used to support and train the tree. Using this method the tree creates a part-wall, perfect for dividing areas of a garden or edging a kitchen potager, but sunlight and visibility are maintained.

## Espalier Your fruit Tree

- 1) Plan your pattern. It is important to consider the type of fruit tree when planning the pattern as it is important to know what age of wood the fruit is borne on.
- 2) Choose a location. Most fruit trees need a minimum of six hours of direct sunlight, so a north facing situation is best.
- 3) Choose the plant and appropriate rootstock. As most espaliered trees are subjected to intense pruning and 'braking' of growth with training, semi-dwarf or vigorous rootstocks should be used.
- 4) Prepare the support. You will need to fix horizontal wires to a structure that will support your espalier. These will be used to train the branches at desired angles. Wires can be spaced 30 to 60cm apart. With fences and walls, fix the wires using eyebolts to keep the plant away from the structure. The incorporation of turnbuckles is recommended to keep the wires taut.
- 5) Plant your tree. Set the plant in the ground about 30cm from the wall, fence or post structure.
- 6) Start training your tree.



### Instructions for a Triple Horizontal Cordon

For apples, pears and nashi – trees that produce fruit on older wood.

- 1) In spring, cut the whip or leader to where you want the lowest set of branches to form – usually at the first wire.
- 2) The tree will branch out from where you have cut it back. Select the best three sprouts and pinch off the rest.
- 3) When two of the sprouts have grown to about 7.5cm long, make them the horizontal arms and begin tying them along the bottom wire. Make sure to use material that will not damage or restrict the growing branches.
- 4) Let the other sprout grow vertically to the next wire (you may need to use a bamboo stake), and cut it off again. Once this vertical limb has sprouted, repeat the process from step 3, selecting and tying horizontal sprouts, leaving one to grow vertically to the next wire.
- 5) As the horizontal shoots grow, continue attaching them to the wires. Frequently pinch off shoots that grow toward or away from the wall.

For more instructions with different techniques to espalier fruit trees, please visit [www.oderings.co.nz](http://www.oderings.co.nz)

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### 130DX BYPASS SECATEURS

The ARS 130DX Bypass Secateurs are compact and easy to handle. The razor sharp blades feature hard chrome plating – proudly manufactured in Japan. The compact handles make these secateurs extremely comfortable to use, and this model is a favourite with all keen gardeners and nurserymen.



### 210DX TURBO-CUT FOLDING SAW

The 210DX is the most compact of the ARS Turbo cut saws, and fits easily in the pocket or pouch. The 160mm long hard chrome plated blade is easily replaceable and features the Japanese fast pull-cut action. This saw has been successfully used in commercial horticulture and private gardens in New Zealand for 30 years and is a real stunner to work with!

# Pittosporum HALO



If you liked the pittosporum 'Golfball', you will love this new 2016 release, pittosporum 'Halo'. It is very compact, has stunning shiny green leaves and is a wonderful New Zealand evergreen plant. Great in full sun or semi shade this low growing, natural ball-shaped hedge is fantastic around porches and patios, planted in pots or straight into the garden. 'Halo' requires pruning only once a year and can grow to a height of 60–90cm. However, much like 'Golfball', if it is kept trimmed this little plant need not be more than 40–50cm high.

Growing at around 7–8cm a year, these are the ideal pittosporum for a low-maintenance garden. They are hardy and enjoy the sun, but they actually perform the best when planted in a little shade, making them the ideal border plant in a garden or along a fence line. Once established, watering them deeply once a week in the summer is ideal, and less frequently in the cooler seasons. Incorporate plenty of Odegrings Compost when planting and enjoy this carefree plant.



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- Hardened and tempered stainless steel head
- Factory sharpened blade

# Wild Backyard

The sight and sounds of birds are a hallmark of New Zealand's wonderful gardens. More than 70 of New Zealand's native bird species are on the world conservation union's 'red list' of threatened species, so we know we must care for the birds, especially during the winter months when food sources are scarce and the nights are long and cold.

Special wild bird food will attract more birds to your garden. This is a great way to encourage children's interest in nature and the outdoors, and can provide a great deal of pleasure for the nature enthusiast.

## Types of Food

Wild bird seed, for example, Topflite wild bird seed or seed cones, is the most commonly used food supplement. Suitable for most birds, it is mainly eaten by the English birds such as finches and sparrows, but it is also eaten by rosellas, doves, pigeons and yellowhammers.

Wild bird nectar is ideal for New Zealand's native birds such as Bellbirds, Wax eyes and Tui that are nectar eaters. Nectar is not available all year and Topflite's nectar mix, which can be added to the Topflite Bird Café nectar feeder, is a great way to provide a supplement for these species. The bird café can also be used for feeding plain water in dry periods.

Wild Bird Energy food is a product based on suet (fat), which provides a great energy source for birds. The ideal time for using this product is in autumn and winter. Almost all birds will devour these treats. The key ingredients in the Wild Bird Energy range are vegetable fat and peanut flour, a flavour the birds love. Topflite's Gourmet Hanging Treats contain a mixture of fats, fruits and seeds that appeals to all bird species.

Topflite grows and manufactures many of these products on their North Otago farm.

## Top Feeding tips:

- Providing a clean feeding area is crucial to help prevent the spread of diseases. If providing water or nectar then ensure it is replenished regularly and is kept in a cool area of your garden.

- Keep feeding tables and water dishes/baths off the ground and ensure they are not placed directly under trees or where birds are likely to perch and contaminate the feeding area with their droppings.

Help nature and bring the wild birds to your backyard with the Topflite range of energy-rich nectar, seed and suet (fat) wild bird food and feeders, all available at Oderings.

Thanks to Topflite for supplying this article. They are proud sponsors of the Landcare Research annual New Zealand garden bird survey. This takes place in early June; see [www.landcareresearch.co.nz](http://www.landcareresearch.co.nz) for more detail and information on how you can take part.





# TERRARIUMS

A terrarium is a container made of glass, plastic, etc., and is partly or wholly enclosed for growing and displaying plants; to simplify this think of terrariums as 'plants in a vessel'.

Terrariums are easy to create. If you have tried to make your own but it didn't quite work out, or have always wanted to try but do not feel confident, let us help to make do-it-yourself (DIY) terrariums easy for you. For this DIY guide we are going to show you three styles with fail-safe growing tips.





# DRY

Succulents or cacti are ideal for a dry terrarium. A dry terrarium has the same planting principle as the lush terrarium; the only difference is you exclude the sphagnum moss and mix perlite into the soil. Also, mist once a month instead of once a week; very low maintenance!

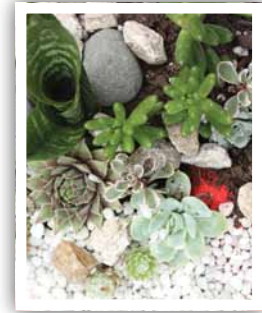
# LUSH

This type of terrarium is the most rewarding. The different textures and tones in the leaves make this a miniature jungle for your home. Three types of plants should be incorporated for this type of terrarium: a strappy leaf, a rounded leaf and a ground cover. Select plants that like similar growing conditions and filtered light.

# AIR PLANT

The vessel for these plants is where you have an opportunity to play with coloured sands, shells, stones and gravel; envision a desert scene. Air plants are easy to look after and have different needs from a normal houseplant. Air plants like to be misted every five days with around five squirts of mist. Do not place this terrarium in front of the window as the sun will burn these beauties; they prefer bright to moderate lighting away from air conditioning.

Do not feel restricted; the world is your oyster with terrariums. Pop in and see us for your own unique plants, accessories and styled terrariums all at our [Little Living Terrarium Hub](#). Our stores also have terrarium artists so if in doubt drop on by.



## Needs list:

- Larger stones – at base for drainage.
- Activated charcoal – used to keep soil fresh within the terrarium.
- Oderings Potting Mix – light and offers good drainage.
- Plants – if unsure visit our stores; we have terrarium artists to help.
- Sphagnum moss – helps with hydration and looks awesome as it greens up.
- Gravel or small stones – used on the top for decoration.
- Ornaments – anything you like, depending on what you wish to create: shells, rocks, small branches, tiny gnomes and small toys; it's entirely up to your imagination.
- Mister – the best way to maintain the watering of the terrariums as these eliminate overwatering.

## Method:

First, consider your vessel; it should be around one-third to one-half full after completing the steps listed. If you have a large vessel you can either put in a few deep layers or a number of thinner ones. Equally, if your vessel is small adjust your layer size and plant selection to fit.

- 1) Add a layer of large stones at the base and sprinkle activated charcoal on top for drainage. If you are filling a deep terrarium, create layers of different stone sizes and colours for an attractive look.
- 2) Add potting mix. There should be a layer of around 5–10cm for most plants. Shallow-rooted plants such as cacti and succulents need less. Make sure you press the soil down firmly to get rid of pockets of air. With 'Air Plant' terrariums ignore this entire step.
- 3) Planting. Dig small holes, tease out the roots gently and plant carefully. Press down

gently to secure each plant in place. 'Air Plants' are placed on top at the end of step one and pressed in firmly to hold in place.

4) Add sphagnum moss, small stones and colourful sands around plants for decoration and to help maintain moisture. For a dry terrarium substitute perlite for sphagnum moss.

5) Add embellishments such as small toys or other ornaments.

6) Lightly water plants. Remember there is nowhere for the water to go so keep it light. Generally, after the first time you water you only need to mist the terrarium about once a week (in the hotter months).

7) Clean any marks and smudges from the outside or inside of the vessel and you are done. The only thing left is to enjoy the new addition to your home.



# Top Eight Gardening Basics

Everyone nurtures dreams of a beautiful, lush, green garden, but experience and confidence are often what makes all the difference in turning this dream into reality. Whether a rookie, novice or experienced gardener, knowledge is key, and here are Gardena's top eight tips to help you succeed.

**1. Consider what you want to do with your garden.** Create a playground for the kids? Incorporate a kitchen garden or a sea of flowers? It can be hard to combine all your wishes and desires, so limit yourself, at least for starters. It'll take some time to create your own personal Eden. Before setting to work consider what features you would like in your garden: seating areas, play areas, flowerbeds?

**2. Start slowly.** If you're the new owner of a house or apartment with a garden, you'd do well to take it slow the first season. From the black earth you might discover the previous owner's garden goodies erupting in springtime. Many plants are perennial and will flower year after year. Other areas might have to be dug up and revived.

**3. How much can you do on your own?** This is a matter of balancing time, know-how and money. For many gardeners much of the charm is doing everything single-handedly. Others hire professional garden designers or landscapers. But you're seldom totally alone and you can always ask your neighbours for help.

**4. What are the climate conditions where you live?** The climate varies depending on where you live. A good start is to ask your local garden centre or plant nursery for advice. They generally know everything there is to know about vegetation, climate and soil. Randomly buying plants without first checking can turn out to be an expensive venture.

**5. Height, time and colour.** These are three simple things to keep in mind when planting a flowerbed. Make sure to pick species with flowering periods that overlap and thus extend the season of bloom in your garden. Combine colours that work together and make sure tall plants don't obscure shorter ones.

**6. Quality pays off.** Naturally, there are cheap tools and low-priced flowers to be found at supermarkets, but plants don't flourish in poor soils and tools should last more than a single season. Buy quality tools and materials! Buy fewer but more expensive things and they'll last for a much longer time.

**7. Share with friends and neighbours.** Not every person in the neighbourhood needs his or her own lawnmower or cultivator. Try borrowing from your neighbours or get together and share the costs when making bigger investments to allow you to buy products of high quality. You can share and exchange plants and bulbs with your friends and neighbours, exchange tips and strategies, and help each other out when you need to lift heavy things. Don't forget to invite them to a garden party as a thank you!

**8. Useful tools for the gardening novice.** Every gardener should have the basics. These include a shovel for digging, a rake, quality secateurs and loppers and a decent, non-kinking watering hose with a sprinkler.

Thanks, Gardena, for supplying the images and content for this article.

# Stay Sharp

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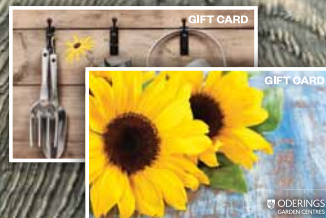
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