

Dear Gardener,



Thank you for growing in CowPots!

Our farm family is committed to leaving the next generation with a better, more sustainable planet by caring for our cows, protecting open space & clean water, and nourishing our community.



Twenty years ago Farmer Matt had an idea! He found one large cooking pot, grabbed a few handfuls of composted cow manure and started cooking. This burnished stew of manure fibers was formed into the first CowPot.

What began as an innovative way to manage the byproduct from our dairy farm, has become an environmental solution that supports healthy soils for gardeners all around the world.

We answer some of the most common questions about growing in CowPots here so that you are successful using our 100% renewable and biodegradable pots.

Thank you for growing with us,

The Freund Family



STEP 1

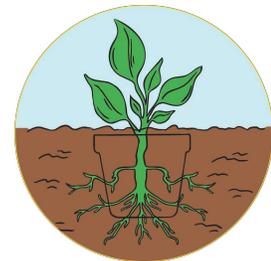
Fill CowPots with soil and plant seeds as directed.



STEP 2

Water and fertilize as directed.

TIP: CowPots turn dark brown when wet, and light brown when it's time to water again.



STEP 3

When seedlings are ready, bury the pot and roots completely, then water.

Indefinite shelf life: Store unused CowPots in a dry location.

Our Top 3 Growing Tips:

Do not overwater. When CowPots are allowed to dry between watering, their walls become a *less inviting home for mushrooms and molds* which grow best on moist surfaces. Allowing the CowPots walls to dry, the process of decomposition is slowed down, increasing the shelf life of your potted plant before transplanting.

Space them out. Allow for space and ventilation between CowPots. Ventilation helps to dry the CowPots walls between watering. This will also encourage better plant growth by allowing plant roots to breathe and improves air pruning. **Fungus and molds are easily managed** within the suggested 12 weeks we suggest as a shelf life of planted CowPots.

If necessary, step up. After 12 weeks, it is these same fungi and molds that stimulate decomposition. CowPots are designed to be 100% biodegradable and safe for you, your family, your plants and your garden. If it's a cold spring or you need to keep your plants inside longer, we suggest stepping your seedling up to the next size CowPots.

Most Frequently Asked Questions:

How can I tell if I'm properly watering my seedlings?

You can tell by color and touch. When the biodegradable pot walls are dark brown and moist to the touch, they do not need to be watered. When light brown and dry, it's time to water the plant pots again. CowPots can be top or bottom watered.



Should I use fertilizer in my CowPots?

Yes. CowPots do not take the place of fertilizer. Use your normal feeding protocol with the fertilizer of your choice.

Do I need to tear the bottom of the pot off?

No. There is no need to tear or rip the CowPot when you are ready to transplant. The porous and biodegradable pot walls encourage root penetration. *By not disturbing the roots, you are eliminating transplant shock.*

How long should it take for my CowPots to decompose after planting into the ground?

As a biodegradable planter, CowPots will begin to break down within weeks of transplanting. As long as they are completely buried at planting, they should be almost completely decomposed by the end of the growing season. The rate of decomposition depends largely on moisture and bioactivity in your soil.

Advice from Growers:

"I start all of my bedding plants in the 6 cell pots, then if things get too big prior to our last frost. I put them in 5 inch round pots. I start my perennials and geranium cuttings in 5 inch pots. These pots hold up well for me. **I allow them to dry out from time to time and that seems to take care of the degrading issues.** I'm always amazed at the roots growing through the pots when I'm ready to plant."



"The pots definitely held up! **When we tried to move them around wet, a top edge would sometimes tear off, but we never had one tear so much that we couldn't use/sell it.** **When they dried out again they were very sturdy.** We felt really comfortable advising our customers to plant the pot directly because of this."

Trays that fit CowPots®:

#3 SixCell	Fits (3) to any 1020 tray
#3 Round	Fits (12) in Dillen CTR3512
#3 Square	Fits (28) in TRK 28300
#4 Square	Fits (15) in Dillen CTS 415 Or (15) in ITML TRK 15400
#4 Square Tall	Fits (15) in Dillen CTS 1545 or (10) in ITML TRK 15450
#5 Square	Fits (8) in Dillen CTS 68
#5 Round	Fits (8) in Dillen VTA 558
#6 Round	Fits (6) in Dillen CTA 66

For more information:

visit: www.cowpots.com or **email:** info@cowpots.com



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#theproofisinthepoo

