

DELICIOUS STRAWBERRIES STRAIGHT FROM YOUR GARDEN

Nothing can be more satisfying and delicious than feasting on fresh strawberries that you have lovingly grown yourself. Strawberries can be grown in the ground or in raised beds. If you have limited space then strawberries will also grow easily in containers or hanging baskets too.



Ingredients

1 x Strawberry planter

'Cocks' made from broken terracotta pots or polystyrene for drainage

Perrywood potting compost

Strawberry plants

(Varieties available include 'Symphony', 'Red Gauntlet', 'Cambridge Favourite' and 'Rhapsody')

Recipe

1. Position your strawberry planter in its final position to save lifting it once planted.
Choose a bright spot with lots of sunshine.
2. Place 'corks' in the base of your planter to aid drainage.
3. Fill your planter with soil and position your plants each time you reach the correct planting hole.
4. Finish planting your container and water.

Aftercare

Ensure your strawberry planter is kept watered throughout summer, especially in dry weather and feed with a liquid fertiliser. You may need to put a net over your strawberry planter to prevent the fruits being eaten by birds.

Other fruit that are perfect for pots

1. Raspberries: Autumn fruiting raspberries don't require supporting and will simply need cutting back to the ground each February. A new dwarf variety called 'Ruby Beauty' is ideal for patio containers.
2. Blueberries: Blueberries prefer acidic (ericaceous) soil and their attractive foliage in autumn is an added bonus making them perfect for pots.
3. Patio Fruit Trees: Apples, Nectarine and Peaches grow well in pots and patio varieties are widely available and are perfect for smaller spaces. Family apple trees will self-pollinate so do not require planting near another to produce fruit.
4. For something more exotic try a fig tree. They prefer a sunny, sheltered position and produce more fruit when planted in pots. Their large green leaves make them extremely attractive.