

# Gardening with recycled bottles

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You can help to save the environment by reusing your old plastic bottles. The bottles can be used both inside and outside to grow your favourite plants. Underneath, you can find some examples: (For more inspiration you can visit [www.balconygardenweb.com](http://www.balconygardenweb.com))

## Bottle-wall (horizontal)

This idea looks simple, but it takes a lot of planning, calculating and careful work.

The holes for the plants and the strings need to be in the exact same positions on each bottle.

The system needs correct watering. Too much water will result in a sour and rotten environment, too little watering will make the plants dry out.

These problems can be solved by making a vertical Bottle-wall instead. (See vertical Bottle-wall card)

## Evaluation

After completing the Bottle-wall make an evaluation of the process.

- Did you invent or optimise your production-methods throughout the process?

- Find three elements of your teamwork/cooperation that helped you and three elements that made it more difficult.



## Growing-bottles

1. Find a recycled bottle (1.5 or 2 liters).
2. Cut it in half.
3. Make a hole in the cap. Be careful not to hurt yourself.
4. Put a thread of cotton, approx 20 cm long, through the hole.
5. Fill the upper half with good soil. It is important that the thread is in contact with the soil, otherwise it will not be able to transport the water from the bottom.
6. It might be a good idea to take another half of a bottle to put on top as a "bottle-greenhouse".
7. Sow your seeds. Watch their growth and development.
8. Lift the upper part to fill up or change the water

## Make an experiment:

Make more pots with the same seeds and the same soil, but treat them differently:

- With or without the "bottle-greenhouse".
- With or without refreshing the water.
- Different locations (in the sun or in the shade).

Make notes of what you are doing. In the end make a conclusion: Which methods will you recommend others to use?