

Windowsill Herb Gardens

Ashland Soil & Water Conservation District



For more information, contact

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Growing a windowsill herb garden can be a quick, easy and delicious way to add fresh greens to your diet:

- **Planting your herbs:** Fill your terra cotta pot with potting soil until it's not quite full. Sprinkle your seeds evenly on top. Add a little more potting soil to cover your seeds. Don't forget to label your pot so you can remember which herb is which!
- **Growing your herbs:** How fast your herbs grow depends on the variety, but most herbs grow really quickly! You should start to see seedlings about a week after planting. You can expect to start harvesting your herbs within a month. Your windowsill's temperature and the amount of light it gets will affect how quickly your herbs grow.
- **Herb maintenance:** Herbs are pretty low maintenance, but here are some tips to help them thrive:
 - Choose a sunny windowsill. A little shade is fine, but the more sun, the better!
 - Water your herbs regularly. To see if your plants are thirsty, stick your finger a couple of inches into the soil of your pot. If it's dry, your plants are ready for a drink.
- **Keeping a fresh supply:** Now your herbs are ready to harvest! Let your plants get nice and bushy. Pick a handful of leaves at a time, leaving the stems intact. This will encourage your plants to put out new growth. Don't chop everything off in one go and leave bare stems—that's a sure-fire way to kill your herbs! Your plants need leaves to capture sunlight and grow.

To maintain a steady supply of herbs, you may want to expand your herb garden beyond your initial three containers. Many windowsill gardeners start a new pot of each herb every week or so to keep fresh herbs ready to harvest each week and to avoid having too many herbs ready at any one time.