

Sanctuary
Supported
Living

retirement
communities

technology
enabled living

Take part in our **Gardening Competition**

Register from **30 March 2026**
Submissions by **6 September**
Public Vote – **14-21 September**
Winners Announced **28 September**

ready steady
grow

2026

**Resident
Information**



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Introduction

Welcome to Ready Steady Grow 2026

Ready Steady Grow is your annual gardening competition, open to all residents across Supported Living and Retirement Communities services. Whether you have access to a communal garden, an allotment, a courtyard, or even a small outdoor space, this is your chance to develop your skills and enjoy the process!

Thank you if you shared feedback last year. Your suggestions have helped shape improvements to this year's competition booklet, and we hope you enjoy taking part in Ready Steady Grow 2026.

This year, there are even more prizes available, with winners and runners-up awarded for each service type.

The main category, decided by public vote, is:

Growing Together Garden Challenge

You can choose how you want to improve your gardens and green spaces, creating safe and welcoming environments for everyone to enjoy.

Focus areas for spot prizes

- ▶ Wildlife Welcome – most wildlife friendly garden
- ▶ Reuse and renew – best use of recycled items in the garden
- ▶ Champion Crops – best grown crops
- ▶ Tallest sunflower – Tallest sunflower wins

There are some fantastic prizes up for grabs.

You can submit your project at any time from the launch date, **Monday 30 March 2026** until **Monday 6 September 2026**, giving you plenty of time to plan, plant, and create.

Getting started is easy: read through this pack, begin planning, and ask staff for support or advice if you need it.

How to use this pack

This pack gives you all the information you need to understand Ready Steady Grow 2026, including how to enter, how judging works, key dates, and details of the prizes.

It also highlights useful documents that can help you prepare your entry.

Competition categories



Growing Together Garden Challenge

This is the main category, inviting you to transform your green spaces, gardens, and courtyards. The aim is for you and other residents to work together to decide how you want your garden to change, creating a safe and enjoyable space for everyone.

You'll have five months to transform your outdoor areas before submitting your entry for public vote. Winners and runners-up will be awarded for each service type, giving you even more chances to win.

Whether you're starting from scratch or building on last year's progress, all entries are welcome. You can choose to include one of the suggested focus areas for a chance at an additional spot prize or simply create a beautiful flower garden. The popular **Tallest Sunflower** category also returns this year.

Not everyone loves gardening, but everyone can appreciate nature.

Feedback shows that green spaces have a positive impact on mental health and wellbeing, and they encourage communication, even among residents who don't actively take part in the gardening project. Your garden is an extension of your home, and its benefits are shared by all.



Growing Together Garden Challenge



How you choose to make your garden look amazing is entirely up to you. Here are some ideas to inspire you;

- Grow a garden, window pots, or planter boxes to showcase the beauty of nature. These can provide nesting spaces for birds or colourful flowers that attract bees and butterflies.
- Add ornaments, create seating areas, or design picnic spots to encourage social use of the space.
- Create a wildlife-friendly garden by incorporating bird feeders, birdbaths, hedgehog houses, or insect habitats.
- Plant a selection of wildflowers to attract butterflies and bees, supporting biodiversity.

These ideas can help you encourage wildlife, enhance biodiversity, and create vibrant, welcoming outdoor spaces.

Some of the best flowers that are easy to grow and maintain.

Sweet Peas

Pretty and fragrant. Easy to handle.

LOVES Sunny, fertile and well-drained soil.

TOP TIP Mice love sweet pea seeds and young shoots. Cover with a mini propagator or cut off plastic bottle.

Californian Poppy

The seeds grow fast so you will quickly see their colourful flowers. Tall varieties for the border, smaller ones for beds and pots.

LOVES Full sun and well-drained soil.

TOP TIP Super hardy, this plant is also ideal for rock gardens.

Marigolds

The seeds grow fast so you will quickly see their colourful flowers. Tall varieties for the border, smaller ones for beds and pots.

LOVES Sunny, fertile and well-drained soil.

TOP TIP Sow marigolds among tomato plants to repel blackfly and greenfly.

Nigella (Love-in-a-mist)

Simply scatter seeds across a patch of soil. Nigella is tougher than it looks and will happily self-seed for the following year.

LOVES Full sun and watering in dry conditions.

TOP TIP Sow two or three times between Spring and Summer to maximise the number of flowers you get.

Focus area – Wildlife Welcome

Create a wildlife friendly garden that will attract and support different types of wildlife. This could be incorporating bird feeders, birdbaths or hedgehog houses. There are many wildflowers you can plant to attract butterflies and bees.

Some ideas of how to encourage wildlife and biodiversity in your garden

Welcome Birds with Feeders and Plants

Birds are some of the easiest and most rewarding wildlife to attract. You can support them by adding:

- Hanging bird feeders - ideal for gardens of any size.
- Wall-mounted feeders or birdhouses - perfect if you have limited space.
- Climbing plants along fences or walls - these offer shelter and help blend feeders naturally into the garden.
- Insect houses tucked between plants - these support insects that birds naturally feed on.

Water Features

A simple water source can make a huge difference for wildlife.

- A small birdbath, shallow bowl, or mini pond gives animals a safe place to drink.
- Water features can attract birds, insects, and sometimes even frogs.
- You can decorate them however you like, your garden stays calm and inviting while still supporting nature.



Focus area - Reuse and Renew

If you'd like to focus on reusing and upcycling items, there are plenty of fun and practical ways to give old objects a new purpose. Not only does this help reduce waste, it also adds personality and creativity to your outdoor space. Here are some ideas to inspire you.

Upcycle Donated Items

Upcycling is a fantastic way to refresh your garden without buying anything new.

- Give an old garden bench a new lease of life with a fresh coat of paint—creating bright, welcoming seating areas for everyone to enjoy.
- Turn wooden pallets into garden borders, planters, or even a handmade garden table.
- Choose colours and designs that reflect the character of your community and make the space feel uniquely yours.

Reuse Everyday Items as Planters

Many everyday household objects can become unique plant pots or garden decorations.

- Old buckets, tins, jars, or plastic containers can be painted and decorated to create colourful, personalised planters.
- This is a simple, low-cost way to add charm to your garden while reusing items that might otherwise be thrown away.

Create a Compost Corner

Making your own compost is great for your garden and for supporting local wildlife.

- Compost enriches the soil and encourages a wide range of insects.
- These insects then become natural food for birds and hedgehogs.
- You can plant flowers around your compost bin or place scented plants in pots nearby to make the area both practical and attractive.

Tyre Stacking for Taller Planters

Old tyres can be transformed into practical and decorative features for your garden.

- By stacking tyres, you can create deep planters that are perfect for growing potatoes or other root vegetables. The higher the stack, the deeper the roots can grow.
- You can paint or decorate the tyres to brighten up the space and make the planter uniquely your own.



Focus Area – Champion Crops



You can grow fruit and vegetables in the ground, in pots, or in raised beds, whatever works best for your space. A helpful tip is to mix flowers between your crops. Many flowers naturally deter pests, helping protect your harvest without the need for chemicals. Marigolds, nasturtiums, and calendula are great natural partners for vegetables and add colour to your garden at the same time.

Create simple vegetable beds around the garden and mix flowers between your fruit and veg to naturally keep pests away. You can grow these in pots, directly in the ground, or in raised beds depending on your space.

A small herb garden is easy to manage too. Use different-sized pots for herbs like mint for drinks and salads, chives and parsley for cooking, and rosemary or lavender for both scent and kitchen use.

Vertical gardens are perfect for smaller spaces. Stackable pots work well for growing strawberries, especially when paired with mint to deter pests. You can also grow quick salad items like lettuce and spring onion in these planters.

Crops that Grow well together

Tomatoes Grow well with:

Basil – improves flavour and helps deter pests.

Marigolds – keep away whitefly and aphids.

Lettuce – grows in the shade of taller tomato plants.

Avoid planting with:

Potatoes (they share diseases).

Potatoes Grow well with:

Beans – help provide nitrogen to the soil.

Cabbage family vegetables (broccoli, kale, cabbage)

Horseradish – boosts disease resistance.

Avoid planting with:

Tomatoes and courgettes.

Strawberries Grow well with:

Mint – helps deter pests (keep mint in a pot to stop spreading).

Borage – improves flavour and attracts pollinators.

Spinach & lettuce – grow well in gaps between plants.

Note- Easy to grow and come back each year.

Beans & Peas Grow well with:

Sweetcorn – beans climb the stalks.

Courgettes or squash – their large leaves shade the soil.

Carrots – benefit from nitrogen the beans add to the soil.

Lettuce Grow well with:

Radishes – grow quickly and loosen soil.

Strawberries – make good use of space.

Cucumbers – lettuce enjoys the shade they provide.



Tallest Sunflower

You bring colour to your outdoor space when you grow sunflowers. They enrich your soil, attract bees and butterflies, and provide food for birds and squirrels, a true all-rounder for your garden.

You can enter the **Tallest Sunflower** category either as an individual or as part of a service. You're welcome to add this entry alongside your Growing Together submission, or your service can choose to enter only the sunflower competition.

Top tips for planting sunflowers

Plant in the sunniest spot

Sunflowers need **6–8 hours of direct sunlight daily**. The more sun they get, the taller and stronger they grow.

Start with good soil

Use rich, **well-drained soil**. Mixing in a bit of compost helps give young plants the nutrients they need.

Water regularly

Keep the **soil moist**, especially while the sunflower is getting established. Deep, **steady watering** helps the roots grow strong.

Give them space

Plant seeds about **30–45 cm apart** so they don't compete for water or nutrients. More space = bigger plants.

Support tall varieties

If you're growing giant sunflowers, add a cane or bamboo stick and tie the stem loosely as they grow. This protects them from wind damage.

Start sowing Indoors

From March-April start on a warm sunny windowsill then plant outside from April-June when frost has passed.

The tallest sunflower variety that is easy to grow from seed is the **Russian Sunflower** which can reach heights of up to 15 feet.

A Sunflower grows rapidly in the **first 50 days** then the growth rate slows until the sunflower reaches its maximum height of approximately eight feet tall.



Important dates

Competition opens- Monday 30 March 2026

Register on the pulse webpage, alternatively email readysteadygrow@sanctuary.co.uk we can send you the links.

Submissions due- Monday 6 September 2026

Deadline to submit final photos and entries for the competition.

We will email and remind you, if you wish to submit early just email us.

Public vote - Monday 14 September – Monday 21 September 2026

Online public vote is open; posters and reminders will be sent out along with QR codes for you to share with family and friends.

Winner announcement - Monday 28 September 2026

Winners announced via email to managers and service mailboxes, and on our website: www.sanctuary-supported-living.co.uk



Prizes

You asked for more prizes, so we've added them! With awards for each service type, there are now even more chances to win

Everyone who enters the competition will receive a certificate of recognition for participating in the competition.

All winners will receive a certificate, trophy and a gift card as follows:

Growing Together Garden Challenge

Winners chosen by an online public vote.

First Place "Best Garden transformation" **£200 gift card- for every service type**

Runner Up "Highly commended garden" **£100 gift card- for every service type**

Spot Prize and Focus Areas

Winners chosen by resident panel members, prizes include trophies, certificate and gift cards listed below:

Wildlife Welcome winners receive **£100** gift card

Renew and Reuse winners receive **£100** gift card

Champion Crops winners receive **£100** gift card

Tallest Sunflower winners receive **£100** gift card



Gift card Winners will receive a gift card from B&Q.

B&Q gift cards can be spent nationwide at all stores on homeware, DIY, and garden supplies.

We like to celebrate our winners so will be asking for photos with your trophy, certificate and voucher that will be published on the website.



How will my entry be voted?

Growing Together Garen Challenge entry will be voted by public vote between **14 - 21 September** Winner is announced **Monday 28 September**.

- It will be important to show the transformation so that voters can see how your garden has improved.
- Think colour, impact, composition, health but also would these plants live and survive together?
- The changes captured in your before-and-after photos will play a big role in how people vote. It doesn't matter whether your garden is large or small - it's about how you've developed it and the effort you've put in.

Spot Prizes will be chosen by our resident panel members; they will select the garden they find fits the focus area best.

Wildlife welcome – The garden that promotes welcoming wildlife wins, think different varieties and what you can do to attract wildlife to your garden.

Renew and Reuse - The best use of recycled items wins, think different items that can be reused and re purposed.

Champion Crops - The best fruit and veg produced wins, with extra time to this year so crops can develop fully, its not just the shape and size but the variety of what you can grow in the space provided.

Tallest Sunflower- The tallest wins. Must be measured from the soil either in the pot or ground, measure straight to the top of the sunflower to get the most accurate measurement.

Please
measure
sunflowers in
Centimetres
(CM)



How do I register to take part and submit my entry?

Head to Pulse, fill in the short form, and you're registered!

Choose your focus areas to be considered for a spot prize. Select as many as you like.

Join the WhatsApp Group by adding your mobile number to registration form.

Email notifications will be sent out with important dates throughout the project.

To enter your **submission**, upload 6 pictures for online votes. This will be available on Pulse and on our website – links will be sent to every registered service so you don't miss out!

One entry per service for the public vote.

Before and after pictures are great to show what you have achieved.

Enter as many sunflowers as you wish.

If you have any questions, email us at readysteadygrow@sanctuary.co.uk

If you would like to send us any pictures of you in your garden or with a planter, you're particularly proud of, please email these with a completed photography consent form (available from staff or the Ready Steady Grow web pages).

The deadline to submit your photos is Monday 6 September 2026

If you need support with your entry, please speak to a member of staff who can help you or submit your entry on your behalf.

Taking photos

It's important that any photos you take are clear, sharp and high-quality, so that they provide good evidence of what you've done. Photos can be taken by residents, or if you don't have

your own camera or smartphone to take photos with, speak to a member of staff who can take photos for you.

We may feature your gardening activities on our Facebook page and our website. If you use social media, please tag your posts with @SanctuarySupportedLiving.

If you or your friends, family or members of staff are in the photos, the photos must be accompanied by a completed consent form, which is included in this pack. Without this form, we will not be able to accept the photos. Make sure you write down the names (first and last) of people in the photos and send a brief description of what is happening in the picture to SSL.Marketing@sanctuary.co.uk

Tips for taking great photographs.

Resolution

To get a clear, crisp image, take photos at the highest possible camera setting. Photos should be around 3MB. Anything with KB on the end of the file size is too small.

Lighting

Always avoid photos where the main light source (windows, the sun, lights) is coming from behind the subject.

Focus

Check the subject is in focus. If your digital camera has an LCD screen, you should be able to see if the shot is in focus. On most smart phones, the focus is often controlled by tapping the part of the image you want focused on screen before pushing the shutter button.

Composition

Try to ensure that you can clearly see what is supposed to be the feature of the photo and that anything of interest is in the picture, so that your photos relate to what you are doing. Take several photos, both vertical and horizontal so that there are plenty to choose from.

Getting started

Now you know how the competition works it's time to get planning. Let's keep it real. We know planting and keeping a nice garden costs money. That's why you won't gain any extra



points for extravagance in this competition.

Knowing where to start can often be your first hurdle. Especially if you don't have any equipment, seeds or soil. But there are ways to get inspired and options for getting support with costs.

Read the **Top tips and ideas** section to give you great ideas and inspiration. If you'd like to enter but are worried about the costs, then speak to a member of staff. It's likely there are others at your service who are in the same situation. Staff may be able to apply for funding, ask for discounts or get hold of some gardening tools and equipment that you can share.

We have put some ideas in the **Funding your project** section.

Remember to think about what might get you votes when planning your entry.



Funding your project

Client Engagement Funding

Through Sanctuary's Client Engagement Funding, grants of up to £300 are available for projects that support you to develop your skills, in this case it would be horticultural skills for instance growing vegetables. You may also want to consider mentioning the physical and

mental health benefits your garden project could provide. [Links provided on Pulse for funding application](#). Alternatively email us and we can send you the link.

A member of staff will need to apply for this funding on behalf of residents at the service.

Before you complete the application, please consider:

- › What materials you need and how much you expect your project to cost (use the **Growing Planner** to help you).
- › Match funding is required; this could be financial, donated items or volunteer time.
- › An element of working with the wider community. This could be a peer support role or local allotment society.

Local funding

We encourage all services to reach out to their local communities. If you decide you only need gardening tools, extra plants or materials which **are likely to cost less than £200**, you could try approaching local stores including:

- › Wickes, B&Q, Argos and Homebase
- › Local garden centres and nurseries
- › Local supermarkets: Tesco, Co-op, Sainsbury's, Morrison's, Asda, Aldi and Lidl

You may be surprised how many companies are happy to get involved!

We have **letter templates available** to help you write to local organisations, to inform them of your project and ask for assistance, links available on **Pulse**.

Donations and expertise

You could also see if there are any **local environmental Friends Groups or Allotments who could donate equipment, soil or seeds**. They may be keen to help, and you could ask if they would be interested in providing you with their expertise and advice to help you transform your garden!

Top tips and ideas

Inspiration

- › Free apps such as Instagram and Pinterest can be a good place to start. Use them to research the type of project you want to create or follow professional gardeners.
- › Gardening magazines – see if anyone is throwing them out. Cut out the pictures you like and make collages.



- Take a walk – get some inspiration from around you.
- Ask an expert – do you have any relations that like gardening? The best tips are often passed down the generations. Do you know anyone that can help or offer advice?
- Watch gardening videos online or programmes on TV. You might pick up some tips - even if their project is more advanced. Gardening programmes include Garden Rescue, Love Your Garden and Gardener's World.

Gardening is a therapeutic, mindful activity, but knowing where to start can feel daunting - it doesn't have to be.



Top tips - Below are eight simple gardening tips to get you started.

- 1.** Start with the right tools, i.e., secateurs, shears, pruning saw, trowel, hand fork and garden hoe for weeding. Alongside that a pair of gardening gloves to protect your hands!
- 2.** Plan your garden so you can work out what to grow where. Planning will also help you to use colour and structure wisely.
- 3.** Planting your plants properly will ensure they grow well and live for a long time.
- 4.** Take time to weed and prepare the soil before planting and add fertiliser where needed.
- 5.** Feed and water plants regularly, knowing when and how to water plants will make all the difference between them living and dying. As a general rule, water the root ball rather than the leaves as it's the root that absorbs the water.
- 6.** When starting a new veg patch it's much better to do a little bit at a time. You can easily cover areas you don't want to cultivate with cardboard or black plastic to prevent weeds growing while you work on different areas
- 7.** Most garden pests don't do much harm to plants and can be left alone. Sometimes pest populations can become an infestation, and you will need to act. Keep an eye out for increasing numbers of pests like slugs and snails will help to keep your plants safe and save you a lot of heartache.
- 8.** Composting kitchen and garden waste is good for the environment, wildlife, your purse and your garden.



Don't forget to enjoy your garden and take time to sit back and enjoy what you have achieved.

FAQs

Which part of the garden is best for my plants?

Check plant tags or ask the staff at your local garden centre to find out how much sun a plant requires, then find a suitable place for it. Put the plants where you can see them, so it reminds you to attend to them.

When should I dig the soil?

Digging loosens the soil so roots can grow more easily. Dig only when the soil is moist enough to form a loose ball in your fist, but dry enough to fall apart when you drop it.

How often should I water my plants?

It depends on how often it rains. Plants will probably need watering when they start to wilt slightly in the heat of the day. Water them slowly so the water soaks into the soil. It is best to water the plants early in the morning to minimize evaporation and give your plants a better chance of dealing with a hot sun. Watering in the evening is also more effective than in the heat of the day. Choose the right plant by checking your soil type. Is it light and sandy or heavy and clay? Many plants thrive better in one type than the other.

Do I have enough space?

Don't be tempted by the displays in garden centres and buy too many plants for the space you have. You don't need much space to attract birds and other wildlife to your outside space, and you don't need much space to grow small vegetables and herbs. Plant labels will tell you how much room they need.

How do I prevent weeds?

All gardens have some weeds. To avoid harming your flowers, weed your garden by hand. Digging out weeds by their roots will ensure they do not return. Wear gardening gloves for this if you have them.

What is compost?

Compost is the natural process of recycling organic material such as leaves and vegetable scraps into rich soil. Putting compost on your soil helps to keep it hydrated and feeds the vegetables and plants you grow. You can buy compost, but you can also make your own with garden waste such as grass trimmings and leaves and as well as fruit and vegetable peel, which may otherwise just go in the bin.

More Ideas for your project

Nesting spaces for birds

If you don't have suitable trees or hedges for birds to nest in, or want to supplement them, put up nest boxes for birds to use.

Growing plants

Growing plants in pure compost can cause problems with water retention and stability as well. While it may be tempting, planting in pure compost is not a good idea. That's not to say you shouldn't plant in compost at all. Just an inch or two of good compost mixed with your existing topsoil is all your plants need.

Use of compost

All soils can be improved with the addition of compost. Spread the compost in a thick layer on top of exposed soil.

Keeping plants alive

Don't over-water, cut off dead flowers, use good dirt and remember different plants need different levels of light.

Somewhere to reflect

If you have open space, you want to be able to sit and reflect on your achievements or just have some quiet time on your own.



Get creative with a pallet

Save money and give an old pallet a new lease of life with this clever recycling idea to make a vertical pallet planter.

You will need: an old pallet, landscape fabric, staple gun

Step 1 Prepare your pallet

Smooth the slats with sandpaper then decide which way is up. Cover the bottom, back and sides with landscape fabric, pulling it taut before stapling it in place. Leave the front and top open.

Step 2 Plant into the gaps

Lie the pallet face up. Slide 12 plants into the top opening to keep the compost in place. Pour a bag of compost on top of the pallet and push it between the slats. Repeat with a second bag. When the pallet is full, start planting from top to bottom.

Step 3 Water and feed

Leave the pallet flat on the ground for a couple of weeks, watering regularly so the roots can establish and hold all the plants in place. Feed and look after plants according to packet instructions.

Ideal for tumbling tomatoes, strawberries, and herbs.



Sow herb seeds



Grow your own herbs from seed for a steady supply of flavoursome leaves. Herbs are easy to grow and don't take up much space. Grow them in a trough, patio containers or in an old bucket with drainage holes. While some herbs can be sown directly outside where you want them to grow others should be started off indoors. Harden off indoor-sown seedlings by gradually acclimatising them to outdoor life over 10-14 days.

| Basil | Chives | Coriander |
|---|---|--|
| Sow little and often indoors, two seeds per cell and thin to the strongest. | Sow indoors or outside, keeping soil or compost evenly moist. | Sow indoors. Hates root disturbances so sow in a pot that you can put outside. |
| Great with: Italian style food | Great with: Potato salad | Great with: Curry |

| Parsley | Marjoran & Oregano | Dill |
|--|---|---|
| Seed is notoriously slow to germinate. Sow indoors for warmth. | Sow indoors with warmth in pots or trays. | Sow indoors from early April or outside in May. |
| Great with: Greek style food | Great with: Italian style food | Great with: Seafoods and salads |

Compost

Compost is crucial for all gardens as it helps your plants get the essential nutrients to grow and thrive. Making your own compost is affordable and helps reduce waste which would otherwise end up in a landfill.

You will need: a bin, suitable waste

Step 1: Prepare your bin

Make sure your bin is large enough! Too small, and you won't be able to add enough materials which will make the mix unbalanced especially when adding waste that slow down the composting process such as grass clippings.

Step 2: Put the right stuff in

Any organic material will be fine! Good things to compost include vegetable and fruit waste, teabags, and grass cuttings. If your mix is looking wet and slimy, don't be afraid to throw in some cut up paper, egg cartons and loo roll tubes to suck up excess moisture and thicken the heap, and if it's looking too dry add more wet materials. Also, give layers a try – alternate between a layer of soft and moist material (e.g. new leaves, fruit and vegetable peelings, grass clippings) with a layer of drier materials (e.g. dry leaves, twigs). Avoid using any meat or dairy products as these will attract unwanted pests and smells. Don't forget to turn the compost heap regularly and water it if required!

Step 3: Get the best out of your compost

When your compost is ready you will have a dark brown soil-like layer with a spongy texture at the bottom of your bin. Spreading the finished compost onto your flowerbeds greatly improves the quality of the soil by helping it retain moisture and stopping weeds from growing. It also reduces the need to use chemical fertilisers and pesticide

Top tips

- ▶ Keep a pail in the kitchen for collecting compostable waste – when it's full, just add it to the heap.
- ▶ Use two compost bins rather than only filling and collecting compost from one – as one bin is composting away, add fresh material to the other.
- ▶ DIY your own compost bin by getting creative with a pallet.

Create your own unusual containers

It's time to think outside the flowerpot.

Look for waterproof household items that would otherwise go to waste. We have provided a couple of examples for you, which you are welcome to try yourself. Here's how to transform your old wellies into plant containers in six simple steps:

- 1.** Clean the wellies with soapy water and dry with a cloth or old towel.
- 2.** Remove any insoles and make a few little holes in the bottom for water drainage
- 3.** Put a few pebbles at the bottom of the wellies (helps water drainage)
- 4.** Fill your wellies with compost from the toe to a few inches from the top
- 5.** Plant seeds by pressing them lightly into the soil and top up with more compost
- 6.** Give them a good water and place in sunlight (check seed packet for direction)



Bicycle Tyre

How to transform an old tyre into planters.

Follow the four simple steps below, you could even paint your tyre to add colour.

1. Clean the tyre.
2. Paint your tyre. An exterior-grade primer is crucial for sealing the tyre and helping the paint to stick. After that, acrylic art paints are the best option, as they will adhere to the rubber surface more effectively. Ensure the tyre is clean, so the paint and primer can stick firmly.
3. Put your tyre planter in place. If your tyre will be laid down on the floor, then you should fill it as you would a plant pot. Perennials or small shrubs are best suited for a tyre planter.
4. Evenly distribute your potting soil throughout the bottom half of the tyre planter (the side with the drainage holes).

Perennials or
small shrubs
are best
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Good Luck!

ready steady

grow

