



DE ATLANTIC
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Repurposing for the Home Garden

A new take on "Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle"

The use of reusing pallets and other old items in a home garden have many benefits and are very easy to make. They range from reducing the personal environmental footprint, turning trash into art, and enhancing the visual appearance of your garden.

Reduce Personal Environmental Footprint

Reusing pallets and other household objects for the home garden offer a way to reduce, reuse, and recycle your personal environmental footprint. Items that are usually thrown into a landfill can be used. Mason jars, baskets, and boots can all be used for planting. Pallets can be nailed together to form a compost bin or vertical garden. In addition, old wheel barrels can be "dumping soil" into an attractive flower garden where the flowers look like they are being poured out. Old two liter plastic bottles can also be reused as flower pots. Instead of throwing away this trash it can be reused and turned into art.

Grow More Plants and Maximize Space

If you have no room left on the property for a garden, pallet or vertical gardens offer a solution. They allow the maximization of space by using vertical space for expansion. This allows you to grow more plants in your garden. They can be stacked along almost anything.

Enhance the Visual Appeal

The use of pallets in a garden can enhance the visual appeal of it. There are many options for ideas and the creativity options are endless. Adding and planting different color plants can give the garden an unique look to it. You can also attach baskets and/ or mason jars to plant in. You could also apply a theme to the project, such as an herb theme. They give an extra touch to that empty space on a deck or corner of a yard that is bare.



Photo Courtesy: Reynoldsgardenshop.com

Why?

⇒ Creating a beautiful garden can be expensive therefore, reusing can make your home garden more affordable.



Compost pile
Photo courtesy. Britney from
themicrogardener.com

Advantages of Repurposing Items for the Home Garden:

Since we live in a wasteful society, reusing items help limit those items piling up in landfills. Repurposing items in your home can save you money and be a perfect fit for your garden or lawn. Items such as

- ⇒ Glass mason jars
- ⇒ Old clothing into rags
- ⇒ Save extra seeds for next season
- ⇒ Plastic bags into garbage bags
- ⇒ Old mugs into flower pots
- ⇒ Old broken plates for garden paths or frames
- ⇒ Reusing the wood from old furniture
- ⇒ Any type of plastic bottles into bird feeders
- ⇒ Old mailboxes into bird houses
- ⇒ Woven baskets out of newspaper
- ⇒ Tea bags into soil.
- ⇒ Old blinds into plant markers
- ⇒ Banana peels into soil or nut shells into mulch
- ⇒ Cereal boxes into mulch
- ⇒ PVC pipes for frogs to control insect populations
- ⇒ Milk jugs create a shield for weed killing sprays

All of these household items can be repurposed into your garden to make a more creative and green home garden.



Milk jugs used for weed spray shields and old items used in gardens.

Photo courtesy: Alicia from <http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu>

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