
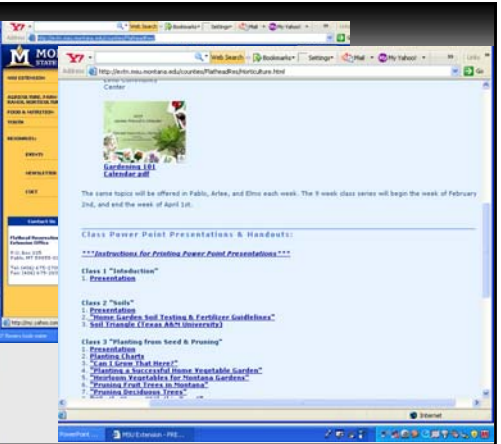




Gardening 101 Tools & Maintenance

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Garden Tools

- Types of Garden Tools
 - Hand tools
 - Cultivating – power tools
 - Carts and wheelbarrows
 - Watering equipment
 - Soil testing
 - Seeding and planting
 - Environmental monitoring
 - Harvesting



Hand Tools

- What garden tools should you buy?
 - It depends ...
 - Size of your garden
 - Your physical ability
 - How quickly you want the job done
 - Usually you will need
 - Spade
 - Hoe
 - Rake
 - Trowel



Hand Tools

- Pointed shovel
 - Great for lifting and moving
- Hand spade
 - Flat blade
 - Shaping
 - Flat sided trenches
- Short or long handles
 - Long handles are better for leverage
 - Less tiring to use




Hand Tools

- Spading fork
 - Breaking and turning soil
 - Loosening subsoil
 - Turning compost
 - Spreading mulch
 - Digging root crops



Hand Tools

- Hoe (square bladed most common)
 - Preparing seed bed
 - Removing weeds
 - Breaking up soil
- Pointed hoe with heart-shaped blade
 - Lightweight
 - Useful for opening seed furrow
- Hula (action hoe)
 - Lightweight
 - Push & pull under soil surface reduces weed
 - Best on uncompacted soil
- Scuffle hoe
 - More sturdy
 - Used for pushing

Hand Tools

- Hoe
 - square bladed
 - pointed
- Hula (action hoe)
 
- Pointed hoe with heart-shaped blade
 
- Scuffle hoe
 

Hand Tools



- Sturdy rake
 - Rocks and debris
 - Spread mulch
 - Smoothing seedbed
 - Weight increases with number of tines
 - Handle tip should come to your ear
 - Short handles give you back pain



Hand Tools

- Garden trowel
 - Transplanting seedlings
- Small hand cultivator
 - Weeding small areas
 - Cleaning between plants
- Digger
 - 10-14" metal rod with two pronged blade
 - Weeding (tap root) & cultivating



Hand Tools

- Other
 - Pickax
 - Break up hard-packed or stony soil
 - Mattock
 - Has cutting blade for large roots
 - Chop debris for composting



Hand Tools

- Other
 - Wheel hoe
 - attachments



Hand Tool Care

- Summer care
 - Use hanging racks to keep tools dry
 - Wash garden tools in soap and water
 - Sanitize greenhouse tools
 - 10% bleach or 70% alcohol
 - Dip 15 to 30 seconds
 - Dry tools after washing
- Summer and fall care
 - Clean, sanitize and/or sharpen
 - Sharpen (Mill file and small handled sharpener)
 - Mower blades
 - Shears, pruners, loppers
 - Apply lubricants
 - Hoes
 - Wood handles
 - Sand
 - Boiled linseed oil



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Cultivating Power Tools

- Tiller selection
 - Heavy cast iron
 - Steel plate
 - Heavy bearings
 - Where is nearest service center
- Uses
 - Incorporating organic matter and manure
 - Heavy, powerful tiller best for rocky soil
 - Soil blender great for raised beds



Cultivating Power Tools

- Rear-tined
 - Better able to self propel
 - Several attachments
 - High priced
- Front-tined
 - Better for smaller gardens
 - Require strength to guide them
 - May not make as straight a pass
 - Can be easier to maneuver



Cultivating

- Hand cultivator
- Small tiller for raised beds



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Carts and Wheelbarrows

- Choose the size and style for the job
- Wheelbarrow
 - Durable construction
 - More strength and control
 - Great for
 - Soil
 - Compost
 - Peat moss
 - Rocks
 - Debris



Carts and Wheelbarrows

- Light cart
 - Straw, leaves, sawdust
 - Moving pots
- Large garden cart
 - Bicycle size tire
 - Rocks and heavier jobs
 - Bags of soil or peat



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Watering Equipment

- Outdoor spigot near garden
 - Hose guides
 - Pressure Regulator
- Sturdy hoses
- Fan-type sprinkler
- Overhead sprinklers use more water
- Drip irrigation puts water on the roots



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Soil Testing

- Test soil the first time you use the garden
- Test soil every three years
- Test soil before making amendments
- Garden center test kits for N-P-K
- Send away soil test for
 - Micronutrients



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Seeding & Transplanting

- Row seeder for large garden
 - Large wheels
 - Make furrow, drop seeds
 - Close furrow
 - Doesn't work on small seed
- Not worth it for small spaces
 - Use small hand-held seeder
 - Broadcast for cover crop



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Environmental Monitoring

- Rain gauge
- Thermometer
 - Daytime high
 - Nighttime low
- Soil thermometer
 - Soil (6")
 - Compost (19")
- pH gauge



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Harvesting

- For ease of tracking crops
 - Small berry baskets
 - Baskets with handles
 - Peck 8 qt basket (2 gal)
 - Bushel 8 gal baskets
 - 4 pecks in a bushel
 - Sharp knife
 - Shears



1 pint





Questions ?