

# Top Tips - Pallet Planters



**Step-by-step Guide** on how to re-use wooden pallets to create unique and long-lasting plant containers which provide more vertical interest in your garden.

# Choosing your Pallet

Pallets come in all shapes, sizes and conditions.

Look around to see what's available; making sure that the wood is sound and the gaps between the slats are wide enough for creating a planting space.

Skips and building sites are a good source of pallets, but ask before you take!



# Preparing your pallet

If it's not already completely dry, put your pallet somewhere dry and warm to thoroughly dry out.

When dry it will be easier to stain, paint, saw through, staple or nail.

Most pallets are made of treated wood that can withstand outdoor use. Leaving the wood in its treated state will create a natural, rustic look to your container. But you may want to stain or paint yours to make it more unique.



# Creating a full Pallet Planter

With this technique you leave the pallet complete and staple landscaping membrane inside it to create a planting pockets. Remember to leave the front of the pallet open between the slats so you can put in the plants.



# Creating a full Pallet Planter

Plant densely through each slat from the bottom up.

When complete, water slowly from the top and let it work down to the lowest plants.



# Creating a sectioned Pallet Planter

You can adapt your pallet to change its shape and size to fit your garden or space available. A jig saw will cut through dry pallet wood easily and quickly to create a different shape.

The pallet below was reduced by a third of its width and then sections were removed. The wood was then lightly sanded and cleaned.



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# Creating a sectioned Pallet Planter

When dry the pallet was painted with outdoor garden furniture paint. The herb names were added later using acrylic paint pens and then covered in yacht varnish to make them weatherproof.

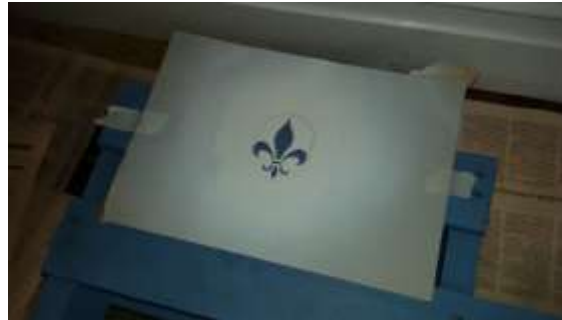


# Creating a sectioned Pallet Planter

Extra wood was nailed to this pallet to create deeper planting pockets in the centre.

When dry the pallet was painted with outdoor garden furniture paint.

Then a simple stencil and aerosol paint was used to create a pattern.





## Creating a sectioned Pallet Planter

When dry, planting pockets made of landscaping membrane can be stapled in place. Cut a generous section of membrane to allow for overlap and attach, as below, at the front, back and sides.



# Creating a sectioned Pallet Planter

If you do not have a staple gun you can also use drawing pins to secure the membrane.



## Planting a sectioned Pallet Planter

When your planting pockets are ready, put the planter where you want to locate it (it can be difficult to move them once they are complete).

You can lean them against a wall or fence and their weight will keep them in place. However, if you have children in your garden, you may want to screw them to stakes, fences or walls to make them more secure. But make sure you can remove them to re-plant, when needed.

Use multi-purpose compost in the planting pockets and choose plants that can grow in 10cm depth of compost. Herbs are perfect as you will be harvesting them to reduce their size but Salad crops (Lettuce, Kale, Rocket, Spinach), small bedding plants (viola, lobelia, bacopa etc), Alpines, Sedums and Sempervirens are also ideal.

Water well after planting and make sure the lowest plants get plenty of water as they tend to miss out on rainfall.

If you have planted seasonal plants you can empty the planter completely and re-plant it the next season as you would with any other type of container.





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