



GROW YOUR OWN FOOD

GARDENER'S TOOLKIT

WHAT BASIC TOOLS DO I NEED?

Once you are ready to get in the garden, you will need some tools. There is a wide range of tools to choose from, however for the amateur gardener, the following basic toolkit will cover most jobs.

Spade (D handle)
Fork
Mattock
Rake (plastic and metal)
Secateurs
Trowel
Hoe (short handle)
Hedge clippers
Wheelbarrow



WILL I NEED ANYTHING ELSE?

For specific jobs, you may need to add to your toolkit with items such as a post-hole shovel, crowbar, loppers etc.

How can I make my tools last?

- To make your tools last longer (and give you better value for money), try these simple tips:
- Give your tools a quick hose and store them in a shed after use
- Give wooden handles a light sand and apply linseed oil (or similar) every now and again to avoid splinters developing
- Clean your secateurs regularly and wipe them with bleach to avoid cross-contamination (this is particularly important when pruning roses as disease can be spread between your plants)



TICKNER'S TIP

Michael Tickner, Adv Cert Hort (read Michael's profile at www.chw.net.au)

"Quality costs a bit more, however spending a bit extra now will give you tools that will last 10 to 20 years or even longer if you take care of them. This is especially the case with secateurs. I bought a pair of high-quality secateurs 20 years ago and have replaced the spring twice. While they cost \$100, that has proven to be excellent value for a tool that should last another 20 years."

If you have any questions about gardening tools, ask your nursery professional for advice.

chw.net.au/gyof