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MARCH 2009



## Easy Annuals to Start From Seed

By Kathy LaLiberte

There was a day when I grew all my own annual flowers from seed—as many as 25 different varieties. Though my garden is now smaller and my ambition has mellowed a bit, I still start many flowers from seed. Here's why:

Say you want to plant a 12-foot row of zinnias along your walk, or put 40 white impatiens in your shade garden. Buying these plants at your local nursery will probably set you back at least \$50, whereas a packet of seeds will run you about \$4. That's an extra \$46 to spend on some other gardening essentials!

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## Create a Kitchen Garden in Containers

For some gardeners, growing vegetables in containers is necessity. City-dwellers make use of rooftops, balconies, alleyways, sidewalks or whatever little space they have available. Gardeners with physical disabilities find that growing vegetables in containers makes them far easier to reach and tend. Gardeners with difficult soil conditions (sand, stone, clay, permafrost!) can't really grow vegetables any other way. And others find it's a way to avoid sharing their harvest with deer or woodchucks.



**Self-Watering Planters are not just for tomatoes.**

If you are new to growing vegetables in containers, or have had limited success, here are a few tips to help you succeed. [Continue ...](#)

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### Success with Early Greens

Harvest salad greens in four to six weeks!

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## Nominate a 2009 Garden Crusader



Ed Bush, our 2008 winner

The Garden Crusader Awards were created by Gardener's Supply in 2001 to honor individuals who are improving the world through gardening. These enthusiastic men and women are planting trees and flowers, growing food, creating new green spaces, and teaching their friends and neighbors about the rewards of gardening.

Do you know someone might make a Crusader for 2009? Take a moment to read about last year's winners:

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**Winner: EDUCATION**

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### Growing Potatoes by the Bag

Maybe you're not ready to jump into vegetable gardening just yet. But what about a small adventure? How about growing potatoes in a bag? The Potato Bin allows even first-time gardeners to get a good harvest — up to 13 pounds!

The Potato Bin is actually a 15-gallon fabric "pot" that measures 18" across and 14" tall, so it fits easily into any sunny site. [Continue ...](#)



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