



Bean Bags

Turn a zippered plastic baggie into a mini indoor garden and science lab!

Materials

- 2 bean seeds*
- 1 plastic baggie with a zippered closure (sandwich size works well, but larger ones may accommodate more seedlings)
- potting mix (any product recommended for seed-starting should work well)
- fork
- scissors
- permanent marker to label the bag (optional)
- syringe, turkey baster or water dropper (optional)

Instructions

1. Fill baggie with pre-moistened potting mix and close tightly.
2. Lay baggie flat and make holes with a fork in several spots on one side.
3. Turn the baggie over and cut a single 1" slit in the center of the other side.
4. Insert two seeds directly below the opening to allow seedlings to easily sprout through.
5. Water thoroughly and place in a warm area (60-80°F).
6. Once seedlings begin to emerge, move baggie to a sunny location.
7. If both seeds germinate, remove the less vigorous seedling with a pair of scissors.
8. The remaining seedling can be transplanted into the garden** after it develops a few sets of true leaves and outdoor temperatures are sufficient.
 - a. Alternatively, keep the seedling in the bag and see what happens!***

* Consider trying this with other types of seeds. Peas, basil, cilantro, tomatoes, peppers, etc.

**Timeline for planting outdoors: extension.umaine.edu/gardening/manual/vegetables/planting-chart

***Some crops (peas, basil, cilantro) will survive for a longer period of time planted in the baggie while others (tomatoes, peppers, etc.) you'll want to transplant into the garden when they develop a few sets of true leaves.

Need gardening advice? Visit our website: extension.umaine.edu/gardening.