



**The Grow Up! Hydrogarden** is a sleek, efficiently designed system that grows 20 plants at once using only 4 square feet of space. The plants are grown hydroponically, without soil, while nutrient-rich water feeds the roots, promoting vigorous and rapid growth. Grow better tasting, vitamin packed, valuable LIVE food! The Hydrogarden uses 90% less water and eliminates 80% of soil born pests and is proudly manufactured in the USA of durable, food-grade, UV-protected plastic, designed for years of outdoor use. It is the most affordable system of its kind on the market!

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS!**

**How many people will one Hydrogarden feed?**

*This truly depends on what you grow. However, as a general guideline, one unit will feed one adult, or two children.*

**What is hydroponics?**

*The process of growing without soil using nutrient-rich water which provides all the micro & macro nutrients found in IDEAL, good-quality soil.*

**Can I grow different crops in the same garden?**

*Yes you can, but you must be mindful of what's planted, where. Always put larger plants in lower pots, mid sized in the middle, and smaller at top. Also, a Hydrogarden full of flowers is spectacular! See chart in next question for size classification.*

**What can I grow in my Hydrogarden?**

*Almost anything that doesn't grow on trees can be grown. For larger plants such as tomatoes, we recommend "determinate" varieties; for vining plants, such as beans, use "bush" varieties. This information is usually on seed packs and plant tags, or available at your local nursery. These types of plants won't grow out of control and take over.*

**"Don't forget, flowers also look spectacular in your garden!!!"**

**Where do I get plants?**

*You can either sprout from seed using starter cubes, or purchase small plants from your local nursery or home improvement store. Be careful with the non-determinate varieties as they WILL GET LARGE. If you choose to purchase starter plants, make sure to gently rinse most of the dirt from roots before planting in your Hydrogarden.*

**What if I don't have a green thumb?**

*Plants want to grow! Many common mistakes made in traditional gardening are eliminated with Grow Up! Hydrogarden™. Plus, we offer complete phone support and education to make you the best gardener possible.*

### **Is Hydrogardening expensive?**

*No. Similar to costs for supplies needed in traditional soil gardening, the ongoing costs in Hydrogardening are nutrient solution, seeds or plants and growing medium. With the high price of groceries, your harvest will cover your costs... and more!*

### **Is Hydrogardening bad for the environment?**

*On the contrary, it is eco-friendly, sustainable, responsible gardening. Growing hydro uses up to 90% less water than soil gardening, and NO poisonous run off into lakes, rivers & streams.*

### **Can I grow indoors as well as outdoors?**

*Growing indoors is widely done; however, it requires greater expense due to specialty lighting, fans and increased energy costs. It is easier and less expensive growing outdoors with Mother Nature controlling the growing season.*

### **Will I have to worry about pest control?**

*Unfortunately, no garden is without pests. However, many bacteria, fungus and insects are soil born, and since Grow Up! Hydrogarden™ uses no soil, the risk of infestation and disease is considerably reduced.*

### **If my yard doesn't get much sun in the fall, will I still be able to use my Hydrogarden?**

*Absolutely! With Grow Up! Hydrogarden™ your garden is portable and can easily be moved whenever you want based on sun orientation and season, and if dangerous weather is forecasted, just move for safekeeping.*

### **Is Hydrogardening an artificial or unhealthy way to grow?**

*All plants require basic, natural components for normal growth. Unfortunately, in soil gardening, these needed components are subject to root competition, scarcity, run off, etc. Hydrogardening provides all needed components to plants on a continual, non-competing basis. Plants take exactly what they need, when they need it.*

### **Is Hydrogardening organic?**

*From seed or plant, to harvest, organic options are available. It is easy to grow organically in the Hydrogarden. Organic seeds and starter plants are widely available at local nurseries, as well as organic pest control, such as Neem Oil. Hydroponic nutrients are considered all natural, but OMRI™ Certified Nutrients are 100% organic.*

### **What is a GMO seed?**

*GMO stands for Genetically Modified Organism. With agriculture, crops are engineered to possess desirable traits, such as pest resistance, or increased production. Non-GMO, organic, and heirloom seeds are available through many seed distributors, such as [johnnyseeds.com](http://johnnyseeds.com).*

### **What is Perlite?**

*Perlite is a pH neutral, amorphous volcanic glass with relatively high water content. It occurs naturally and is greatly expanded with heat....it 'pops' like popcorn! It's super light weight and absorbs nutrient-rich water to feed plants.*

### **Why is my perlite turning green?**

*This is algae which is a normal plant that grows with moisture and sunlight. You can remove the top layer of perlite that has grown algae, however, as the plant canopy grows, the perlite is shaded and algae growth will subside.*

### **Can I use dirt as a growing medium?**

*No way, no how! Only extra large, coarse perlite will work in the Grow Up Hydrogarden. Any loose material, such as dirt, coconut husk, or small size perlite, has the potential of entering the reservoir and clogging the pump. The XL perlite provides maximum airflow to plant roots, adding oxygen and promoting healthy growth.*

### What is pH?

*A pH measurement is used to show if a solution is acidic or alkaline, also called acid and base. The pH scale runs from 0.0 to 14.0, with 7.0 being neutral. If the solution is lower than 7.0, it is acidic, and if it is above 7.0, it is alkaline. THE IDEAL pH RANGE FOR MOST HYDROPONIC CROPS IS BETWEEN 5.5 AND 6.5.*

### Why is pH important?

*The pH level affects the availability and absorption of nutrients to plants. Maximum absorption is found at pH levels of 5.5 to 6.5.*

### How do I change the pH levels?

*pH is adjusted by using an acid to lower or an alkaline to rise. Hydroponic food-grade adjusters are widely available, or pH can be adjusted naturally. To do this, vinegar will work as an acid to lower pH levels if above 6.5, and conversely baking soda will work as an alkaline to raise pH if below 6.5.*

### What type of water should I use in my Hydrogarden?

*Generally speaking, the water from your garden hose should be fine. However, it is important to continually test pH levels.*

### TROUBLESHOOTING:

#### *Why do my vegetable plant's flowers just fall off?*

*This sounds like they are not being pollinated. If your Hydrogarden is in an area with no bees or breeze, make sure to gently flick flowers at dusk or dawn. This works for the vast majority of self-pollinating plants.*

#### *What can I do to support my heavy crops?*

*The Hydrogarden pots have holes on the ends just for this purpose! Use twine, wire, wood dowels, green garden tape, or similar to create a support system for your weighty tomatoes, cucumbers, zucchini, or any vining crops. Just tie or clip vines to your support system and your heavy plants will be happy.*

#### *Why aren't my plants doing as well as I expected?*

*This could be due to many factors, but the number one reason is lack of adequate sun. Make sure your Hydrogarden is getting full sun (6 plus hours a day), in addition, rotate the lid at quarter turns or half turns periodically to make sure your plants are getting 360 degrees of sunshine.*

#### *How do I know when to harvest?*

*Every crop is different. For example, lettuce can be harvested daily by cutting outer leaves off. Herbs can be clipped regularly, but red peppers, for example, should be red in color before harvesting. Refer to the wealth of information online for details on each crop.*

