



Saving water in the garden

TOP TIPS

With changing weather patterns due to climate change, we're now seeing much less rainfall during the summer months, often followed by extreme rainfall. So, learning to cope with these challenges is becoming even more important for gardeners. Make the most of your garden space with our top tips:



Water butts

Did you know water butts come in all different types of shapes and sizes. Put all that lovely rainwater to good use by installing a rainwater harvesting system in your yard/garden.



Re-use

Water used for washing your salad and veg is great for your plants and if you have a fish tank you can re-use this, too, it's full of nutrients your flowers love.



Make the most out of limited space

Plant hardy plant types such as succulents that are great for fitting in even the tightest of spaces and require a lot less water than many other plants and flowers.

How you can use less water in the garden

There are many ways you can save water in your garden. Here are some useful tips on how you can use water wisely in your garden:

- **Use a watering can;** give your flowers a drink from a watering can instead of a hose pipe. Water flow is also slower, reducing the chance of water running away before your plants can absorb it.
- **Where and when to water;** watering your garden during dawn and dusk or once it is shaded will help minimise evaporation and will help reduce strain on flowers. Make sure you water your plants closely to the roots.
- **Water retaining crystals;** use water retaining crystals on your potted plants and hanging baskets to keep them hydrated for even longer.
- **Types of plants;** planting the right flowers in your garden can make a huge difference on your garden and the water you use. Most gardens and yards can often be overshadowed by houses, walls or trees, so making sure you plant flowers that cope with lower light levels such as ferns and foxgloves.
- **Leave your lawn;** A hosepipe or sprinkler uses 540 litres of water per hour. Don't over water your lawn, grass is hardy and can bounce back quickly after some lovely rainfall.

- **Use mulch;** mulch your soil with bark or straw to retain water in your flower beds, it can also help slow down weed growth and prevent pesky slugs and snails.



- **Re-use old items to collect water;** even if you have installed a water butt in your garden, you can still save even more rainwater by re-using old items such as buckets or even paddling pools to collect rainwater.



For more information watch our save water in the garden playlist.