

How to Grow a Tree

Before you get started:

- ✓ Different tree species may need to be planted at different times of the year but generally speaking in Malta most trees can be planted between October and April when it is less hot.
- ✓ Decide on the kind of tree you want to grow. It is always better for the natural environment to grow tree species that are native to the country you are planning to plant them in.
- ✓ Some trees are protected and may require a permit so it may be easier to obtain seeds from a trusted and responsible provider who sources the seeds locally and who has a permit to obtain seeds. Permit holders are expected to adhere to guidelines which reduce environmental damage whilst collecting seeds.

You can obtain seeds from **The Grow 10 Trees Project** by clicking [here](#).

Equipment & Materials:

- ❖ Tree seeds
- ❖ Small plant pot with tray/ milk carton/ yoghurt pot
- ❖ Something to make holes in milk carton. Ask for help from an adult.
- ❖ Small garden spade
- ❖ Water
- ❖ Some small stones
- ❖ Wooden Marker
- ❖ Felt Pen
- ❖ Mixture of 50% soil & 50 % compost OR good quality compost (from a local garden centre)



Instructions:

1. If using a plant pot put some small stones in the bottom. If using a milk carton or yoghurt pot you need to make holes in the bottom. For a milk carton watch this short video - [How to open a milk carton](#).
2. Fill the pot or milk carton with some soil leaving stopping 4 cm from the top.
3. Place 1 to 5 seeds (if the seeds are small place more in each pot) in the chosen container.
4. Sprinkle a layer of soil mixture on top of the seed/s. The amount of soil placed should correspond with the length of the seed - the smaller the seed the less soil is needed. Press down very slightly.



5. Water the seed/s enough to soak through all the compost.



6. Write the species name and the date you planted it on the wooden marker and stick this in the soil.



7. Place the pot in a warm spot (indoors if possible) in an area that does not get too much sunlight.
8. Different species may require different after care. Please refer to individual species care here - [How to Sow](#).
9. Be patient - you may need to wait a few weeks for your little seedling to grow. Different tree seeds may take shorter or longer times to sprout depending on the species.
10. Repeat to start growing your own little forest!
11. Join **The Grow 10 Trees Project** Facebook Group ([Link](#)) to find out about locations your tree/s can be planted when old enough.

Congratulations on growing your first tree!



Please note: Unfortunately not every seed will grow into a tree as nature can be unpredictable. You may need to keep experimenting with various seeds at different times of the year (generally avoiding the hot seasons) and see what works for you.

These guidelines have been compiled in collaboration with **The Grow 10 Trees Project**, an organisation dedicated to helping proactive citizens to grow and nurture at least 10 local trees and plant them in local afforestation projects.