

Small gardening:  
cultivating  
unsophisticated  
practice



- 1 -

Choose a pot to put your plants in, nothing that is new and ideally over five years old (increase the ideal minimum age of the pot by two years for every five years over the age of 25 you are). The pot should be ceramic, or made of heavy material or be big enough that when it is full of dirt, it is heavy. It must be heavy and awkward to carry when it is full of dirt, but not so heavy that it can't be carried. It can be an old one you have outside, one you got from a friend's place or found on the street. If there is a sentimentality behind the origin of the pot, all the better.

- 2 -

Fill the pot with dirt. Any dirt that looks reasonably healthy is good. Chicken shit is the only good fertilizer.

- 3 -

The pot must be planted with no less than 2 different types of plants in it. No plants that you can recognize by either their common or scientific name should be used. The plants must not be paid for; they should be stolen or found. Weeds are a good starting point.

- 4 -

During planting, the plants must be shown obscene pornography to stimulate root growth and show them that 'this is the real life'. The pornographic material can be in print, on computer or on DVD, but should be shown to the plants outside, because pornography is not often viewed outdoors.

- 5 -

Some general tips on watering would be, try to simulate the original water environment of the plant. If the plant droops, then water it. If the top 5 cm of soil is dried out, then water it. Try not to over-water, or to let water stagnate in the drip tray.

- 6 -

You must read to the small garden a minimum of one book out loud. The book must be a subversive text. Highly recommended is Wang in Love and Bondage, by Wang Xiaobo, State University of New York Press, 2007.

- 7 -

Have the small garden outdoors for at least one third of the time. It is important to have the plant indoors at least some of the time and it should be placed on a working table, desk or chair. Awkward spots where it will get in the way are good.

- 8 -

The small garden should get at least 20mins of TV news per day, or should be read aloud to from a newspaper for 5mins each day.

- 9 -

At some stage the small garden must have interaction with a cat. If you have a cat, then all the easier, or the garden can be taken to a location where there is a cat and they should enjoy free time together. Put sardines in the pot to promote the cat's curiosity. This encounter must be documented by video.

- 10 -

Up until point nine, any timeframe whatsoever is acceptable. However, within two months of the cat video, the small garden must be destroyed.