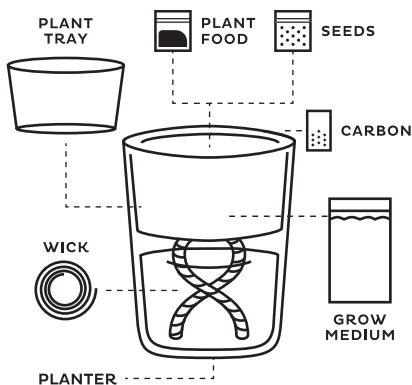


# Sunflower

## GROW KIT

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### SELF-WATERING BAMBOO PLANTER



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Before you start, consider the time of year and your region's climate. Sunflowers thrive in temps between 70°F–75°F and with at least 6 hours of direct sunlight (an unobstructed south or west-facing window is best). Starting in Mar-Sept will provide longer days and thus optimal light. If starting during cooler months, it's recommended that you supplement natural light with a grow light.

Sunflowers thrive in direct sunlight. Feed often and water regularly. Dwarf Sunflowers can reach up to 3' in height.

**Sprout Time: 7–14 days**

**Bloom Time: 3–4 months**

## Getting Started

1. Wash hands and remove all contents from planter. **(Starting with clean hands prevents potential mold growth.)**
2. Pour  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup water into the planter.
3. Take the plant tray and flip it upside down on a cutting board, using a sharp knife carefully cut a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " X on the bottom center of tray.
4. Fold the wick in half and thread it up through the X.
5. Pull the wick up so the top of the loop ends about  $\frac{1}{2}$ " below the top edge of the plant tray. Add the grow medium to the plant tray. Cover the wick with grow medium if exposed.
6. Carefully drop the plant tray into the planter.
7. Pour  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup water slowly into the plant tray, evenly around the grow medium.
8. Pour the carbon evenly over the grow medium.
9. Sprinkle on seeds and push them  $\frac{1}{2}$ " below the surface of the grow medium.
10. Place the planter in a warm and sunny window (68°F–86°F).

**OVER >**

11. Touch the surface of the grow medium daily, and if it's not **slightly damp**, spray with a **little** water. Don't oversaturate.
12. Once sprouts develop, remove the plant tray and pour out water.
13. Mix 1 cup water and  $\frac{1}{8}$  **tsp of plant food** and pour through the plant tray, carefully around sprouts. Solution will collect in the planter.

Occasionally lift the plant tray to determine if the planter needs a refill. If so, repeat 13.

## Growing On

Some seeds may fail to germinate (this is nature). If sprouts don't appear in 2-3 weeks, the seeds may have been planted too deep, grow medium is too dry or wet, or temps are too low. In dry climates or during cooler months, consider creating a greenhouse effect by placing the empty grow medium bag over the planter. Punch a few holes for ventilation. Remove the bag once sprouts are 1" tall.

Sunlight, temperature, ventilation and humidity will impact how the growing medium holds moisture. Ideally, the coco should be medium brown in color. Coco that is dark brown in color is too wet and can develop mold. To achieve an optimal moisture level, you may need to adjust the watering frequency and volume to compliment your environment. The carbon is included to prevent mold from developing - it conditions the coco and manages moisture.

If plant appears weak and spindly, there is either not enough light or temps are not in the optimal range. Try a different window or consider supplementing with a grow light. During the outdoor growing season you can place the planter outside temporarily to jump start your sprouts (just be sure to bring the planter indoors if it rains).

If temps outside drop below 50°F, remove the planter from window to prevent cold damage.

## Transplanting

This Bamboo Planter is designed to grow a small sunflower plant; however, you can transplant the plant into a pot or the ground for a larger and more robust plant.

Transplant outside into a location with full sun after the threat of frost has passed, and sprouts have at least 3 true leaves.

Harden off plant for 5-7 days by placing it outdoors in partial sun during the day, and bringing it indoors at night. Cut off plastic tray prior to transplanting.

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