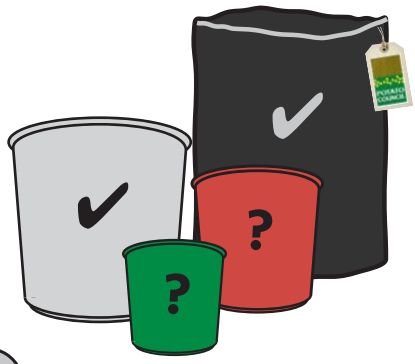
Grow Your Own Potatoes

Factsheet 2: Growing my potatoes

The right environment

Potatoes need light, water, food, space, air – and the correct temperature to grow really well.
Read the following top tips to help grow the biggest weight of potatoes.

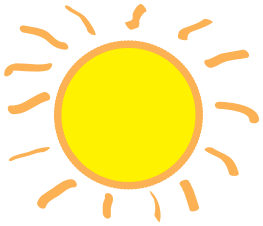


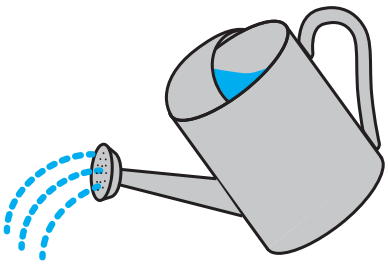
Space

The more room the plants have to grow, the better, so remember this when selecting a container. *Remember that if you are entering the competition, you will need to use the seed potatoes and the grow bags provided by PCL.*

Light

Plants need light to grow, so make sure that containers are placed somewhere in the light.



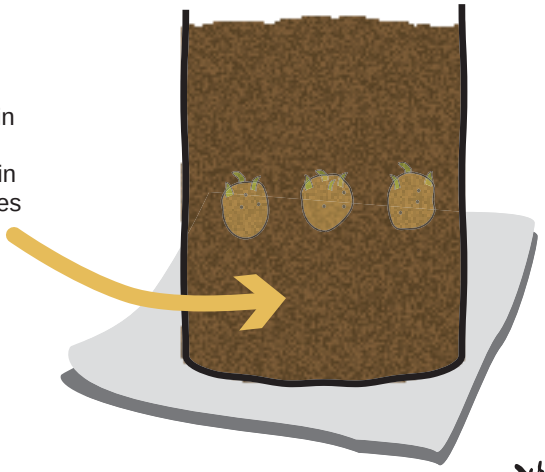


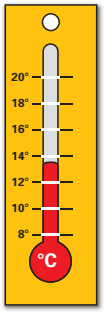
Water

Potatoes need water to grow, make sure you do not over water or the plants will go mouldy. Ensure that the soil is moist.
Water every 3 – 4 days, but only if the soil is dry.

Nutrients

Like us, potatoes need food to grow. Potatoes get this from nutrients in the soil.
Compost should contain everything your potatoes need.
You might want to add some extra plant food, if you do read the instructions carefully.





Temperature

The ideal temperature for growing potatoes is **10-15°C** (50 – 59°F).

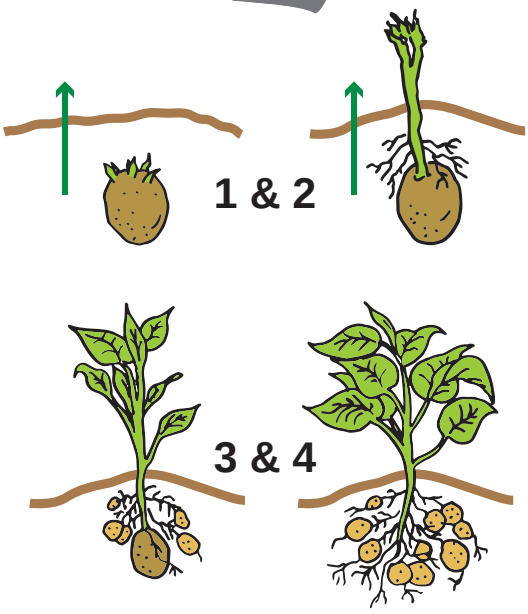
Potato plants do not like frost!

Potato plants do not like to be too dry!

How they grow

1 & 2. The shoots on the potatoes produce roots and leaves.
The leaves and stalks push up out of the soil towards the air and light.

3 & 4. The root system goes down into the soil to collect water and nutrients and then start to produce new potatoes!



Top tips

Visit
www.gyop.potato.org.uk
and watch video clips to help you grow the best crop of potatoes.

See **Factsheet 3: Growing tips** for further information.