

Growing Potatoes the Easy Way...In Hay

Planting potatoes in hay mixed with a little compost ensures a bountiful crop in a very limited space. Many gardeners who live in urban areas or in apartments will find quite a bit of enjoyment growing their own potatoes when ground space is hard to find. The simplest method I have found is to plant potatoes in plastic trash cans covered with hay to insure tubers are not exposed to sunlight which turns them green and toxic. When the crop is ready, I simply lift the edge of the straw (being careful not to harm the potato plants) to remove enough potatoes needed for that night's dinner.



How To:

Punch several drainage holes in the bottom of a large plastic trash can. Place about 8 inches of hay in the bottom. Place certified seed potatoes on hay. Cover with seed potatoes with about 12 inches of hay. * Cover hay with about 3 inches of compost. Water the soil and cover with more hay, making sure that hay and compost does not fill more than $\frac{1}{4}$ of the trash can. As plants grow, continue covering with more hay. Water regularly as you would any vegetable garden. You can harvest a number of times before the vines die.

<http://www.GammysHouse.com>