



# Soil & Drainage Guide

A SIMPLE SOIL MIX TO AVOID ROOT ROT

## Understanding Soil & Drainage

Proper soil and drainage are **essential** for healthy plant growth, especially in container gardening. This guide will help you create the perfect environment for your plants to thrive, even during the rainy season. Poor drainage can lead to **root rot**, a common issue where roots decay due to excessive moisture.

## A Simple Soil Mix Recipe

- **1 part** - Garden Soil
- **1 part** - Coco Coir
- **1 part** - Perlite

This balanced mix promotes drainage while retaining enough moisture for your plants.

**Garden Soil:** Provides nutrients and structure.

**Coco Coir:** Improves water retention and aeration.

**Perlite:** Enhances drainage and prevents compaction.

## The Importance of Drainage Holes

Ensure your containers have adequate drainage holes at the bottom. These holes allow excess water to escape, preventing waterlogging and root rot.

If your container doesn't have holes, you can drill some. Make sure the holes are large enough to allow water to drain freely. Using a layer of gravel or rocks at the bottom is often suggested but is not recommended as it actually reduces the amount of soil available for the roots, so it's best to make drainage holes instead.

## Preventing Root Rot

Root rot is a fungal disease that thrives in overly moist conditions. Here are some tips to prevent it:

- **Well-draining soil:** Use the recommended soil mix.
- **Proper watering:** Avoid overwatering; let the top inch of soil dry out between waterings.
- **Good air circulation:** Ensure your plants have enough space and ventilation.
- **Monitor your plants:** Look for signs of root rot, such as yellowing leaves or a foul odor coming from the soil.

## Rainy Season Care

- **Elevate containers:** Lift pots off the ground to improve drainage.
- **Monitor soil moisture:** Check the soil regularly to avoid overwatering.
- **Provide shelter:** Move sensitive plants to a covered area during heavy rains.

Rainy seasons can bring challenges to container gardening. By following these simple steps, you can protect your plants from water damage and ensure their continued growth.

Remember, every plant is different, so adjust your care routine based on their specific needs.

## Summary

By understanding the importance of proper soil and drainage, you can create a thriving garden, even in challenging weather conditions. Remember to use a well-draining soil mix, provide adequate drainage, avoid overwatering, and monitor your plants regularly. Happy gardening!