

# TOP TIPS FOR ALLOTMENT HOLDERS

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1. If you don't have any tools, buy only the essentials – spade, fork, hoe, rake, trowel and watering can
2. For your back's sake do not rush clearance and digging. It is best to start in the Autumn.
3. If a plot is badly weeded over, it is best to skim off the top and then dig it
4. Ensure that you remove the roots of docks, dandelions and couch grass as these will regrow
5. Start a compost heap for vegetable matter
6. Do not start sowing seeds in the open too early, as many are lost in the cold and wet ground
7. You will need to water plants that are being transplanted until they become established
8. Aim for a succession of crops throughout the year and rotate the crops in sequence
9. Plant flowers to make the plot more colourful
10. Fellow plot holders can also give lots of advice – don't be afraid to ask questions
11. Report any crimes to the Police using the non-emergency 101 telephone number, unless you are seeing a crime in action then always phone 999
12. Working on your allotment little and often is best. Rome wasn't built in a day!