

# Elevate your outdoor living space!

## Debunking 3 gardening myths

Are you new to gardening? If so, you've probably heard all types of advice floating around. To ensure you start out on the right foot, here are three common gardening myths debunked.

- 1. "Coffee grounds do wonders for the garden"**

Have you been told coffee grounds can chase away slugs or unwanted insects, enrich the soil or act as mulch? The truth is that sprinkling this organic waste around the base of your plants doesn't really do anything. It can even prevent water and air circulation. Simply add it to your compost.
- 2. "Potted plants should always have a drainage layer"**

You don't need a base layer of small rocks or clay balls if you're planting vegetables or flowering plants in containers with drainage holes. To prevent soil from coming out of the holes after watering, line the bottom of the container with old newspaper or a coffee filter.
- 3. "Never put rhubarb leaves in the compost"**

This misconception stems from the fact that rhubarb leaves are slightly toxic and unsafe to consume. However, don't hesitate to add them to your compost bin. The oxalic acid they

contain quickly transforms into a harmless substance during the decomposition process.

Trust the horticultural experts for accurate and reliable information on the best gardening practices.



## 5 popular walkway materials

Are you thinking of creating a walkway to add elegance to your property? Here are five materials to consider.

1. Interlocking pavers. Available in a variety of designs, interlocking pavers provide a contemporary look. They're durable and require little maintenance unless the surface is particularly porous.
2. Natural stone. Natural stone is robust and gives your yard a rustic look. Remember that the stone slabs must be carefully installed to ensure they lie flat and don't create a tripping hazard.



3. Mulch. Wood chips and bark are ideal for creating an organic-looking walkway. However, you must reapply the mulch yearly to maintain a neat look.
4. Crushed materials. Crushed stone, concrete and brick are some of the most popular options. Make sure the size or shape of the aggregate isn't too bulky, making it uncomfortable to walk on.
5. Wood planks. A wooden walkway with closely spaced planks is esthetically pleasing. It's also ideal for wheelchair accessibility.
- Before installing your walkway, you must carefully prepare the surface. Remove a layer of turf, raise the middle slightly to facilitate rainwater runoff and apply the required underlay, like geotextile fabric, rock dust or sand.
- For professional results, hire a local landscaping company to complete your walkway.

## What you need to know about successive sowing

Do you dream of planting a vegetable garden that gives you fresh produce all summer long? Successive sowing is an effective strategy to optimize your precious plot of land.

**WHAT IS IT?**  
The principle of successive sowing is simple: once you harvest mature vegetables, you reuse the empty space to sow



new ones. For some vegetables, this means sowing several seeds over three or four weeks. The aim? To enjoy fresh vegetables for a longer period without having to cook or freeze the surplus; preventing waste is an added benefit.

Sowing in succession allows you to get the most out of your garden. Moreover, you can quickly fill empty rows with new plants to prevent your plot from being overrun by unsightly weeds.

**WHICH VEGETABLES TO CHOOSE?**  
It's important to note that not all vegetables are suitable for successive sowing. Slow-growing vegetables such as tomatoes and eggplants won't work. Instead, choose fast-growing species like lettuce, spinach and radishes.

Check the hardiness zone in your area to find vegetables suitable for successive sowing.

Several root vegetables are suitable for successive sowing, especially those with edible foliage. For example, beets are a great option. You can use the young — and delicious — leaves in a salad.

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