

Gardening with peat-free soil: How to make the transition a success

WHAT SHOULD I KEEP IN MIND WHEN USING PEAT-FREE OR PEAT-REDUCED SOIL?

WATERING



Make sure to provide an adequate supply of water! Peat-free soil retains less water per watering than peat-based substrates, so you will need to water more thoroughly and, in very hot weather, possibly several times a day. As a general rule, the smaller the container, the more often you'll need to water. Always make sure excess water can drain away easily. A drainage layer of clay or pumice granules helps protect plants – especially those kept outdoors – from waterlogged conditions after heavy rain or accidental overwatering.

FERTILISING



Feed your plants early! Peat substitutes, such as wood fibre, tend to bind nitrogen. Apply a nitrogen-rich liquid fertiliser regularly, or mix a nitrogen-rich slow-release fertiliser into the planting hole when planting. Always follow the instructions on the fertiliser packaging.

POTTING



When potting or repotting, remember that peat-free substrates tend to settle more than you might be used to see with peat-based soils. Fill containers almost to the rim, then press the soil down gently. Repeat this process until you reach the desired fill level – but don't forget to leave a small watering edge!

STORAGE



Use peat-free or peat-reduced soil as soon as possible after purchase, as its properties can change over time. Always reseal opened bags tightly and store them in a **cool, dry and dark** place to maintain quality.

For more detailed recommendations on using peat-and and peat-reduced soils, visit <https://www.substrate-ev.org/en/peat-free-soil/>, or scan the QR Code below.



Click here for even more practical information on soil mixes: <https://www.substrate-ev.org/en/consumer-info/>