



## How to Plant a Pollinator Patch: A Step-By-Step Guide

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### 1. CHOOSE A LOCATION

Consider how the space is used, proximity to a water source and accessibility  
Get permission if necessary

### 2. WHO OWNS THE LAND?

Are there bylaws in place that govern its use?

### 3. LEARN ABOUT YOUR SITE

Soil

Sun

Moisture

Current vegetation

### 4. DETERMINE THE DESIGN: SIZE, SHAPE AND LAYOUT

Consider how much you can manage – remember you can always expand later!

Do you want paths? Seating?

Consider leaving some bare ground for nesting

### 5. CHOOSE YOUR PLANTS

Consider whether species are native, natives, exotic or invasive

Remember to check nurseries for availability and aim for local seed sources

Decide on type of plant material: seeds? Plugs? Pots? A combination?

Aim for a diversity of shapes, colours, bloom times and growth forms

### 6. CREATE A PLANTING PLAN

Sketch a bubble diagram that takes into account site growing conditions, plant size, species groupings (groups of 3, 5 or 7 plants recommended for small gardens).

### 7. SITE PREP

Weed and debris removal

Weed suppression

Construction of containers or beds

Make sure you have all materials: newspaper, soil, mulch, etc.

### 8. PLANT!

Plant and mulch according to your planting plan

Water

### 9. MAINTAIN – MOST IMPORTANT IN THE FIRST 2-3 YEARS

Weed

Water

Interplant if necessary

### 10. OBSERVE AND ENJOY!

Visit your garden often to enjoy the fruits of your labour and observe nature in action

What pollinators are visiting your site? Which plants do they seem to like the most?