WHAT IS A SELF WATERING SYSTEM?

Self-watering systems are a primitive form of hydroponics in which water is strategically worked from hose lines to the base of plants. Self-watering systems are incredibly easy to install and manage. Hose lines can be directly attached to your home's water mainline. And, while self-watering systems vary in size and shape, they all accomplish the same goal of saving water and time in the garden. By relying on timers, hose lines, and drip emitters, growers can automate the irrigation process and supply each plant with a scheduled amount of water.

Example of a Self Watering System

WHY GROW IN A HYDROPONIC SYSTEM?

- Saves water
- Saves liquid nutrients
- Saves time
- Grows plants bigger and faster

Ask a PNW Staff Member for any Additional help

SHOPPING LIST

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Notes

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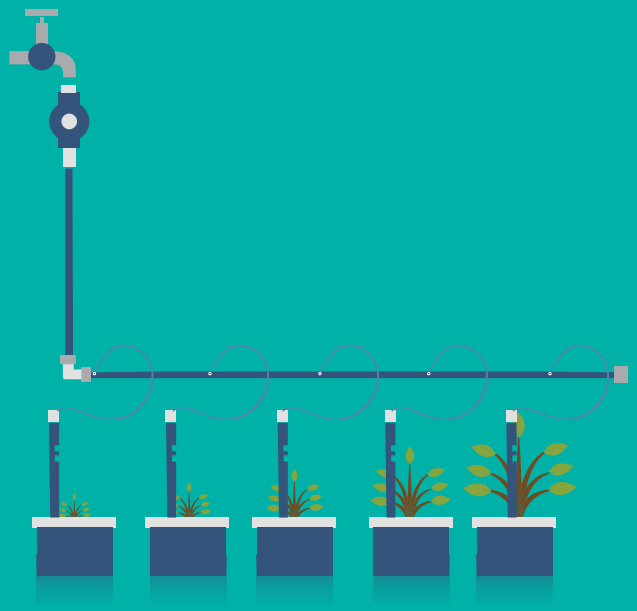
How To Build Your Own Hydroponic **Self Watering System**



Read this guide for tips on building your own self watering system. Follow the advice inside to learn more about the equipment, tools, and techniques needed to build a self watering system. Perhaps the easiest system to install, a simple self watering system requires only a few pieces of equipment and takes only minutes to properly assemble.

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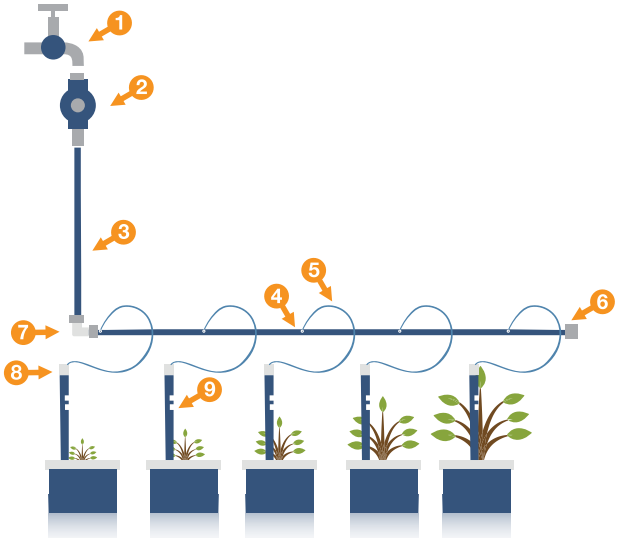
Follow the steps below to create your custom Self Watering System

Equipment Needed:
(Multiply if Nessesary)

- Water Source
- Faucet Timer
- ½”, ¾” or 1” Hose Line
- Barbed Adapter Fitting
- Spaghetti Line
- Plug
- Elbow Fitting
- Drip Emitter
- Alligator Stake



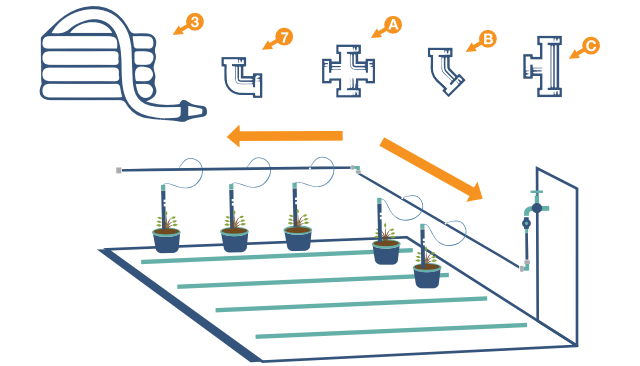
1 WATER SOURCE
2 FAUCET TIMER
3 ½”, ¾” or 1” Hose Line
4 BARBED ADAPTER FITTING
5 SPAGHETTI LINE
6 PLUG
7 ELBOW FITTING
8 DRIP EMITTER
9 ALLIGATOR STAKE

Let’s Begin the Build

Step #1

Before you install your hose line, plan and configure your self-watering system to the layout of your garden. Map a rough draft of your self-watering system and purchase the appropriate fittings, accessories, and hose line. Hose line fittings like elbows, tees, crosses, and adapters can be used to change the direction of hose lines if needed.

3 HOSE LINE 7 ELBOW FITTING A CROSS FITTING B ADAPTER FITTING C TEE FITTING



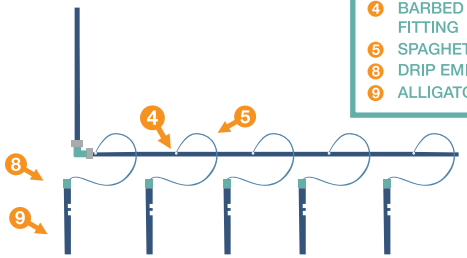
Step #2

Begin to install the previously mapped hose line. Keep your hose line straight during this installation; bends and curves in the line will slow down water pressure during irrigation. Also, direct angles can be made by cutting your hose line and installing hose fittings.

3 HOSE LINE
7 ELBOW FITTING

Step #3

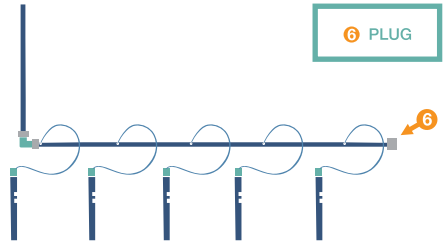
Punch small holes into your mainline pipe and insert the barbed adapter fittings. From there, connect the lengths of the spaghetti line to the fittings and extend the hose to the base of your plants. Lastly, install drip emitters to the ends of the spaghetti line. Alligator stakes can be used to stabilize the spaghetti line next to your plants.



4 BARBED ADAPTER FITTING
5 SPAGHETTI LINE
8 DRIP EMITTER
9 ALLIGATOR STAKE

Step #4

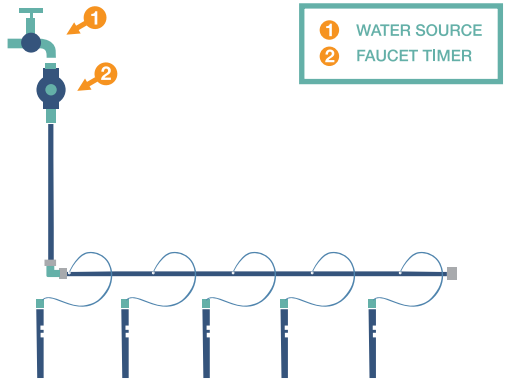
Your self-watering system needs adequate pressure in order to function. So, make sure that all the open ends of your hose line are sufficiently plugged.



6 PLUG

Step #5

Take the beginning of your hose line and insert it into a faucet timer of your choice. Then, connect the opposite end of the timer to your water source.



1 WATER SOURCE
2 FAUCET TIMER

Step #6

Most faucet timers have two settings: frequency and run-time. Frequency determines the regularity of irrigation (once per day), while run-time describes the time that each plant will receive water (5 minutes). Experiment with both of these settings while automating your irrigation system and determine which cycle works best for your garden.