

# Common Seeding Mistakes

Seeding indoors not only saves you money, but is an easy and enjoyable way to enjoy just a bit of spring during the long winter months. Though seeds are easy to grow, some first-time 'seeders' may experience less than perfect results. So, before you get growing indoors, here are some rookie mistakes to avoid:

## Using Improper Soil

Wanting to save a few dollars, people will often save used soil from the garden to seed their plants indoors. This can cause a wide variety of problems such as damping off, insect infestation or even weeds. Always use a soil mix developed for seeding such as Schultz Seed Starter mix. This mix retains moisture yet drains well, and contains plant food for increased root development.

It is also important to use No-Damp - a fungicide used to prevent damping off, which is a common problem when starting seeds indoors.



## Seeding Too Deep

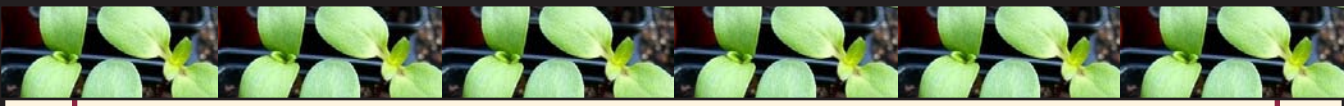
Though most seed packages list the required planting depth, a good rule of thumb is to plant the seed 2 to 3 times as deep as the seed is tall. So, if the seed is 1/4" tall, plant it 1/2 to 3/4" deep. If the seed is very tiny, then plant the seed on the surface of the seeding mix. When doing so, ensure the mix is pre-moistened so as to avoid washing seed away when watering. Tiny seeds such as Tomato, Pepper, Cabbage etc. need only be planted 1/4" deep. Larger seeds such as Squash and Castor Bean can be planted 3/4" to 1" deep.



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## Insufficient Lighting

Light is often overlooked by first-time seeders. When seeds first germinate, they need the maximum amount of light possible until they develop more leaves. Though your living room may be extremely bright, the truth is the light is quite insufficient for developing seedlings, and at too great of a distance away from the plants.

Fluorescent lights or grow lights need to be placed 1-3" away from the top of the plants. Remember to keep adjusting the light source to keep it this same distance from the plants as they grow taller. Our new Snugfit Humidity Domes fit snugly over our seed flats, and can incorporate a fluorescent light right into the lid to keep the light source close to seedlings. A great way to ensure seedlings get the humidity and light they need.

Our Greenland Seeding Kit includes the Snugfit Dome, Seed Flat and Light all for approximately \$40.00 - plus, if you buy our Seeding Kit, we'll give you a bag of Seed Starter Mix free! This kit is perfect for the first-time seeder.



## New to starting seeds indoors?

No problem - our knowledgeable staff are on hand to help with lots of tips to get you started, or visit our Garden Tips section at [greenlandgarden.com](http://greenlandgarden.com).



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