

## SHOPPING LIST

### Materials

- 4 feet of 1/2" wide rebar
- 2" screws or nails for base
- 2x4 lumber for base
- 12" terra cotta pot
- 10" terra cotta pot
- Two - 8" terra cotta pot
- 6" terra cotta pot
- Paper towel or coffee filter
- Organic potting soil:
  - Miracle-Gro Organic Choice
  - Miracle-Gro Moisture Control Potting Mix
  - Miracle-Gro Potting Mix

### Herbs

Choose herbs that have compatible shade or sun tolerance and grow well in your zone.

### Tools

- Sledgehammer
- Power drill
- 1/2" drill bit
- Trowel
- Watering can

## NOTES & IDEAS

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# MAKE AN HERB TOWER CONTAINER GARDEN

LET'S DO THIS.



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## MAKE AN HERB TOWER CONTAINER GARDEN

Herbs give so much pleasure for so little work. They look good, often smell good, and usually taste good. Best of all, they thrive with little fuss.

### STEPS

Your herb tower needs a solid base. Consider two options:

1. Choose the best spot for your herb tower. With a sledgehammer, pound about one foot of rebar into the ground. Make sure the ground is flat and level in the area where the pot will rest. Thread the 12" pot over the rebar.
2. Build a wooden base. Use six pieces of 2x4, placing three pieces side-by-side over the layer of the first three pieces so that the seams cross. Attach layers with nails or screws.

### INSERT REBAR INTO A WOOD BASE

- 1 Drill a 1/2" hole in the center of the wood base, at least 3" deep. Insert the rebar into the hole.
- 2 Keep the following safety instructions in mind:
  - Always wear eye protection.
  - Never use any electrically powered hand tool that has a damaged or frayed cord, or is missing the ground prong on the plug.
  - Leave power tools unplugged until you are ready to use them.

### ADD DIRT

- 3 Place a layer of pebbles in the bottom of the 12" pot. This will provide drainage for your tower.
- 4 Place an even layer of dirt in the base pot, the 12" terra cotta pot. In order to get the desired angle, build up one side of the pot with more dirt. Use your trowel to add the dirt and pat it down, creating an angle in the pot.



### PLACE THE FIRST ANGLED POT

- 5 Now it's time to place your first angled pot, the 10" terra cotta pot. Thread the pot through the rebar and then place the pot at an angle. Push down on the pot to make sure it is secure. Place a paper towel or coffee filter around the rebar at the hole. Add dirt to the 12" pot, around the outside base of the 10" pot for extra stability.
- 6 If you would prefer to keep your pots straight, keep the soil levels horizontal. Thread the next smaller pot through the rebar and place the bottom of the pot directly in the center of the pot below it. Fill each pot with soil before adding the next pot.



### ADD DIRT TO THE 10" POT

- 7 Place a paper towel or coffee filter around the rebar, to cover the bottom hole of the 10" pot. Fill the pot with potting soil or special potting mix made for container gardens.



### ADD THE REMAINING POTS

- 8 As you add the remaining pots, you will create a work of art that appears to be defying gravity. Place each pot at alternating angles so that the pot you are working with is at the opposite angle of the pot it rests on. Place the bottom of the pot on the edge of the pot below it. The 8" pot and two 6" pots will need a paper towel or coffee filter around the rebar and over the hole before you add dirt.
- 9 Place dirt or potting soil in each pot.



### ADD THE HERBS

- 10 Choose herbs based on personal preference, your home's growing zone, and amount of sun and shade available. Some herbs, such as catmint and thyme, will provide a pleasing appearance. Other herbs, such as lemon balm and lavender, provide a fragrant appeal that many enjoy. Herbs such as basil and cilantro provide chefs with the perk of using home-grown herbs in their cuisine.
- 11 Plant herbs that need the same amount of sunlight and water in your tower garden. Select regular herbs or organic, depending on your personal preference.