

Worksheet 4: Weeding: A basic guide

Weeding Tips:

Wet = Pull, Dry = Hoe

If you try and pull up weeds when the earth is dry, you will find you have a tougher job – so pull weeds first thing in the morning when the earth is still damp, dampen the soil with a watering can first, or wait until after a rain shower.

Mulch is a good time-saver, no matter if you're tending to flower beds or vegetable gardens. It cuts down on the time it takes to water, weed, and fight pests. All in all, this makes for healthier fruits, veggies, and flowers.

Before you start to plant seeds or seedlings make sure you clear the soil of weeds, you'll need to clear grass and get rid of roots (stack the turf somewhere upside down and it will compost into beautiful top soil which you can put back into the beds in a few months), then carefully dig over your soil.

If you want to make things easy – you can get rid of weeds by covering the area with plastic or cardboard – you should do this in early spring. This helps warm the soil so you can plant or sow a couple of weeks earlier than if you left the patch open to the elements.

Use sheets of clear plastic – it warms and dries the soil, and – and – encourages the germination of any dormant weed seed. When you uncover the patch to plant, dead grass and weeds are easily cleared by hand or hoe.