

#### 4. Check the Acidity

Then you'll need a pH test strip and measure the acidity of the potting mix. Make sure the acidity of the mixture must be in between 6.0 and 7.0.

#### 5. Keep Moist and Store

Finally make sure that the potting mix must be moist. Store it with a lid to insure it stays moist.

Once stored, please recheck the soil's pH when you wish to use it. If soil pH is neutral (around 7.0) or a little acidic (around 6.5) no need to add any pH reducer elements. When you are ready to use your potting soil just add any last minute minerals you might want. Generally, limestone is used to raise a pH level, and sulfur is used to lower it.

Plus, you'll want to add some slow release fertilizers as well. Finally, add water to moisten the mix and begin planting.

### Types of Potting Mix

#### 1. Seedling Soil Mix

- 5 parts finely screened compost
- 4 parts garden soil
- 1-2 parts coarse sand
- 1-2 parts COCO peat moss
- 200 gram lime

#### 2. Soil-less Container Mix

- 4kg peat moss
- ½ kg vermiculite
- ½ kg bone meal
- 100 gram limestone
- 1 kg fully decomposed cow dung

#### 3. Soil-based Container Mix

- 1 part screened compost
- 1 part garden soil
- 1 part coarse sand or a mix of vermiculite and perlite

#### 4. Peat-Soil Combination Mix

- 2 parts vermiculite
- 3 parts coco peat
- 2 parts perlite
- 2 parts dehydrated manure
- 3 parts garden soil
- 1/2 part bone meal

#### 5. Potted Perennial and Shrub Mix

- 1 part compost
- 1 part coarse sand
- 1 part coco peat moss
- 1 part composted leaf mold / kitchen waste
- 100 gram lime

#### 6. Soilless Mix (adapted for organic growers)

- 3Kg coconut coir dust/ coco pit
- 1 Kg Red Sand
- 500 gram leaf mold
- 500 gram Compost powder
- 250 gram perlite
- 250 gram stone chips/ brick chips/ marble chips

The organic material in the above mix provides structure and the sand will improve drainage. A balanced, slow-release organic fertilizer may also be added to the mix.

#### Note:

Ordinary garden soil is not recommended as a potting mix. It's usually too heavy and may contain weed seeds, diseases, and insect pests.

## HOW TO MAKE POTTING MIX



**Navratan Agro Organic Pvt. Ltd.**  
C-26, IIIrd Floor, Palam Vyapar Kendra,  
Palam Vihar, Gurugram, 122017, NCR

Ph: 0124-4200950, 91- 8447573880;  
Email [navratanagroorganic@gmail.com](mailto:navratanagroorganic@gmail.com)  
Website: [navratanagroorganic.com](http://navratanagroorganic.com)

## How to Make Potting Mix

Potting soil, also known as potting mix or potting compost, is a medium in which to grow plants, herbs and vegetables in a pot or other durable container. Some common ingredients used in potting soil are peat, composted leaf, sand, perlite and recycled mushroom compost, although many others are used and the proportions vary hugely.

Some plants require potting soil that is specific for their environment. For example, an Adenium would grow better in potting soil containing extra peat moss, while a cactus requires sharp (i.e. plenty of) drainage, most commonly perlite or sand. But potting soil is not ideal for all contained gardening. Insectivorous plants, such as the Venus flytrap and the pitcher plant, prefer nutrient-poor soils common to bogs and fens, while water-based plants thrive in a heavier topsoil mix.

### Benefits of Making Your Own Potting Soil:

Here are a few of the reasons you might want to consider doing this yourself:

#### 1. Light and Fluffy

Light and fluffy soil needed for plants to grow healthy and diseases free. The reason is because the lighter and fluffier it is the easier plants to spread out and take root. Also, potted plants need fluffy soil because oxygen has an easier time accessing the plant.

#### 2. Longevity

Every one want a soil that is going to last and some time the soil we normally taking

for potted plants did not do well and the clay content making the soil water resistant. Potting soil must not be break down easily and won't compact. It will last long.

#### 3. Retain Water

Potting soil must hold water. This is great for the plants because they need water to be released to them as needed.

#### 4. Nutrients to Plants

Normally plants get nutrients from the soil. By creating potting soil provide these necessary nutrients. But be sure whatever soil you create or purchase, will give the nutrients your plants desire.

### The Ingredients

#### 1. Coco Peat or Peat Moss

You will need 1 part of coco peat. If you are about living a greener life, then you'll want to go with coir peat. It is a waste by-product of coconut processing. So it is clearly a renewable resource. However, if you just prefer peat moss it will do the same thing.

#### 2. Vermiculite

Then you'll need 1 part vermiculite. This is a natural volcanic mineral that has expanded because of heat. They do this because it increases its ability to contain water.

Also, vermiculite is great at providing necessary minerals for your plants. It can also hold minerals for your plants as well.

#### 3. Compost

Next, you need 2 parts compost that has been sieved. You can make your own compost or purchase it. Whichever option works best for you.

#### 4. Vermi worm compost

Vermiculture is one of the best source of balanced nutrients. Add ½ cup to 1 cup of Vermi worm compost in your potting mix. Also, you can use humus from the bottom of your vermi compost pit. It helps retain moisture in your potting soil. It is a great food source for plants and contains microbes that are beneficial to most plants. Plus, it protects from toxic metals and toxic chemicals that can be found in some soil. It also helps create the desired texture for a potting soil as well.

### The Process

#### 1. Presoak the Coco Peat

First of all place the coco peat or peat moss in a larger container to soak. Be sure to soak it in warm water. For 5kg block, you have to take 15 lts water or divide it in half to determine how much water you need to rehydrate the block.

But once you have loosened the rehydrated peat with your trowel and are satisfied with the consistency of it, then you are ready to move on to the next step.

#### 2. Mix the Peat and Vermiculite

Then you'll need to mix equal parts peat with vermiculite. If you are not able to purchase vermiculite, coarse sand could be used in its place.

#### 3. Add Compost to the Mix

Next, you'll need to sieve your compost (Farm yard manure, cow dung compost, Kitchen waste compost, leaf mold). Once you've completed that, you'll need to take these items and combine them with other nutrients that you might want to add to your potting soil. Then you'll add it to the peat and vermiculite to round out your potting soil mix.