



GROWING YOUR GARDEN

Trellising your tomatoes: Garden guide

Wired Trellising for Tomato Plants

Tomato plants are inherently heavy and droop under the weight of all the fruit they produce. Because of this, it is important to provide your tomatoes with some additional help to keep them upright and lower the risk of diseases. While the initial installation of a support device (be it stakes, trellises, or cages) is simple, tomato plants often need to be "trained" to climb the support structure.

Installation

Wired trellising is installed by driving stakes down into the soil on either end of the garden bed, running hogwire between the stakes, and securing this wire fencing to the stakes. The hogwire should be placed within 3-4" of the tomato plant's central stem, so they can easily climb and weave in and out of the trellising



Training

As your tomato plants continue to grow, you will need to train them to grow up the fencing, and not outward. Gently help the branches weave in and out of the grid of the hogwire. If the branches aren't staying where you want them to by simply tucking them in and out of the latticework, you can use twine to keep the branches growing where they should. Keep the twine loose to prevent damaging the plant. Tomato branches are flexible... to a point. They can bend further than some plants, but be careful not to snap them off when training them to climb the trellising



Note: Tomatoes grow quickly so be sure to continually train them to grow up the trellis every 3-4 days