

## WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Dry powdered clay (try this or this!)
- · Compost or organic nutrient-rich soil
- Seeds: wildflower, herb, etc. (to get plants best for your area, enter your zip code <u>here</u>, click the plant guide for your area, and scroll down to plants that attract pollinators.

Some gardeners recommend making seed bombs with one species of plant rather than using seed mixes as the seeds may compete with each other for nutrients and sunlight.

- Bowl (it will get a little messy!)
- Measuring cups/spoons
- A surface to let your seeds dry on for a few days (parchment paper, aluminum foil, placemats, etc.)
- Optional: ground sidewalk chalk to color your seed bombs

## **ABOUT SEED BOMBS**

Spring is around the corner and all kinds of bees are looking for flowers to scavenge nectar from and pollinate. Have you ever heard of a seed bomb? Saving bees through seed bombs is fun and easy. A seed bomb is a rolled-up clay and soil ball filled with seeds that you simply toss out in your yard, garden, or even along roads and highways! When it rains, the clay dissolves into the dirt, and when the conditions are suitable for the seeds to grow, they begin to take root. Plus, the ball protects the seeds from birds and harsh weather conditions until the seeds are ready to germinate. Any seeds can be used such as wildflowers, herbs, or vegetables, but you want to use seeds that grow well in poor soil environments.



## **HOW TO MAKE**

- 1. Combine 1 part clay with 1 part compost in a bowl.
- 2. Add in your seeds. It's recommended to have 5 parts of clay/compost mixture to 1 part seeds but it's not too particular.
- 3. Add water, a couple tablespoons at a time, and mix. Continue alternating between adding water and mixing until your mixture becomes a pasty dough texture.
- 4. Form your balls! You can make them in any size you want! You can:
  - Roll or press your clay flat on a table and use a butter knife to cut into even squares. Then roll each square into a ball. This makes it easier to make consistent-sized seed bombs. Or...
  - Get fancy and use fun-shaped molds! Press seed bomb mixture into molds and let dry as much as possible.
- 5. Let seed bombs dry on a surface for 2-3 days. Ensure they don't get wet or the ball may break apart too early.
- 6. Optional: to add color to the outside of your seed bombs, mix ground chalk with water and paint them!

Once you've created your seed bombs, throw them outside in locations that could use more pollinator-friendly flowers. The bees will thank you and everyone will be able to enjoy the colorful addition to the landscape! Enjoy!



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