



CHALLENGE:

GROWING NZ NATIVE SEEDS

Growing from seeds is easy!

Growing from seed is easy, fun and rewarding. It is the most commonly used method of propagating native trees and shrubs. It's the best way to produce large numbers of plants.

In this kit
Challenge instructions
Seeds – collected locally
Labels

You will also need:

Something to use for a seed tray

Seed raising mix

Permanent marker/ pen to label

Pea gravel (if you have)

A protected area outside

(e.g. frame with a shade cloth)

Watering can and water

WHAT TO DO—HOW TO SOW SEEDS...

- 1. Prepare seed tray with holes in bottom (see if you can recycle something for your tray).**
- 2. Fill seed tray almost to the top with commercial seed raising mix (no weed seeds).**
- 3. Flatten the surface of the seed raising mix.**
- 4. Sow seeds onto the flattened surface.**
- 5. Cover with a layer of pea gravel – holds the seed down and helps retain moisture. Or just use more mix.**
- 6. Label with species name and date.**
- 7. Water the trays.**
- 8. Place in a protected area outside – protected from disturbance from cats, mice, etc.**
- 9. Wait for germination— usually in spring.**



Learn More: What do different types of seeds look like? When do you collect seed and how do you prepare different seeds? What is ecosourcing?

See <https://www.southlandcommunitynursery.org.nz/restoring-your-patch/get-growing/seeds/>