

Top Five Tools Needed to Start Gardening

Don't own a tractor? Not even a tiller? Can you start a garden without them? Of course you can! Those expensive tools are nice, but most of us don't have them, especially when we are starting out. So what tools do you need?

1. Shovel - You will need a good shovel to dig holes for planting. Or to dig up plants.
2. Leaf Rake - Leaves are great composting material, so you will need a rake to gather them up into manageable piles. If you have not started a compost pile, now is the time! Or you can also put the leaves directly into your garden. They will eventually break down and add nutrition to your soil.
3. Garden Rake - What is the difference in a leaf rake and a garden rake? The leaf rake is light and glides across the top of your grass to pick up leaves. The garden rake is tough and spikey to dig down into the soil and move it around. Use the garden rake to make rows in your vegetable garden like a tractor plow would.
4. Loppers - Loppers are large pruning shears. Use them to prune small to medium branches. Also to cut down small trees that have popped up in the wrong places.
5. Pruners - These small scissor type pruners are necessary for pruning tiny to small branches and to cut flowers for indoor use.

These five tools will get you started. And if you can't afford all five at once. Just start with the shovel, garden rake, and pruners. You can expand your collection at a later time.

Have all of those?

BONUS Tools:

A trowel and a hand fork are invaluable. In fact, I probably should have included the hand fork in the top 5 above. I use it a lot.

Splurge Items:

Small chainsaw. I have the JawSaw and I love it!