

Growing a Great Garden Maintenance



Growbox staking kit



Earthbox staking kit

Staking/Trellising

A stake is nothing more than a rod made from wood, plastic or metal. The stake is inserted into the soil. A growing plant can be tied to the stake, or simply used to prop up the plant and prevent it from flopping over. You can also use string or twist-ties to ensure the vine stays attached to the stake.

Trellises come in two basic forms. One is a mesh or net of wood, metal, plastic or fabric that stands as a wall behind or amid the plant that requires support. Another effective method (especially for beans and cucumbers) is to tie twine or string to the ceiling and allow the vine to attach itself and climb up the twine. The growing plant is then tied to the lines for support. For Garden Set-up version #2 that uses a wire shelving unit, you will tie your trellis netting to the back of the stand. For Garden Set-up version #1, you may also be using an Earthbox or Growbox staking kit, as show.

In your Little Green Thumbs garden some form of support will be necessary for your pole beans, cucumbers, indeterminate tomatoes and peas. You will probably not need to stake your Tiny Tim or Red Robin tomato varieties, as they are determinate, compact plants. If they are growing extra-large and you want to prop them up, consider using a stake. Your peas will only require some stakes to prop them up off the ground, though you may also use a trellis.

