Site Preparation 101
Containers

Step 1: Determine placement of pot. Most fruits and vegetables need 8 hours of sunlight to thrive.

Step 2: Assess how your pot will drain. It is essential that your pot has either drainage holes or is made out of a permeable material.
*Roots will rot and plant will die without drainage

Step 3: Fill pot with potting soil. See recipe below or purchase soil. You can try using soil from your backyard, but you may experience drainage problems.

**Container Gardening Mix for Annual Vegetables**

- 2 parts compost
- 1 part coir (coconut fiber) or well-rotted leaves
- Handful of perlite

Step 4: Either direct seed or transplant into pot.

Step 5: Create watering schedule. It’s easy to overwater pots. Seeds need to be kept moist to germinate. For established plants, the top 2-3 inches of soil should be dry.

*Photo credit: Liz Platte-Bermeo*