

# GARDEN CARE AND MAINTENANCE PART 2 QUIZ ANSWERS

1) **True or False: You should start a new compost heap every month.**

**Answer:** True

**Explanation:** Each new compost heap is going to take a few weeks to start producing compost. In order to ensure that you have a regular supply of compost you will need to start a new compost heap every month.

2) **Which of the following should you NOT add to your compost heap?**

**Answer:** Diseased Plants

**Explanation:** When you add diseased plants to your compost heap, the disease transfers to the compost. As you use this compost you will spread the disease all over your garden. Rather remove diseased plants from your garden and burn them.

3) **Select all correct answers: How do you know if your plants need fertiliser?**

**Answer:** Plants are a yellow colour  
Plants are growing very slowly  
Plants are getting diseases

**Explanation:** You can germinate seeds in just some cotton wool on your windowsill, which has no nutritional value. However once the plant starts to develop it will need sufficient nutrients to grow big and strong. Therefore, you won't be able to determine whether your soil needs fertiliser by your garden's germination rate. Rather pay close attention to your plants once they are growing to identify signs that they need more nutrients.

4) **True or False: Chicken manure can be used as a fertiliser if heavily diluted with water.**

**Answer:** True

**Explanation:** Chicken manure is very rich in nutrients. However, you can't apply it directly to your garden because it is too strong and will burn your plants. Dissolve the chicken manure in water at a ratio of 1 part chicken manure to 40 parts of water before applying to the garden.

5) **Which of the following is NOT a benefit of mulching?**

**Answer:** Produces more colourful vegetables

**Explanation:** Whilst bright, vibrant vegetables are a sign of nutrient rich soil, this is not directly attributable to the practice of mulching.

6) **True or False: In traditional gardens you should only mulch when your plants are a few cm's high. But you can mulch a Reel Garden immediately after planting.**

**Answer:** True

**Explanation:** Reel Gardening seed tape shows you exactly where your seeds are in the soil. Therefore you can mulch in between the strips of paper sticking up out of the soil, without fear of smothering your vegetable seeds.

7) **True or False: Depleted nitrogen levels in the soil results in poor leaf growth.**

**Answer:** True

**Explanation:** Nitrogen is the mineral responsible for big, green leaf growth. Too much nitrogen in the soil will result in lots of leaves and small roots and little fruit production. However too little nitrogen in the soil will result in poor leaf growth.

8) **Select all correct answers: Transplanting is important because:**

**Answer:** Plants need sufficient room to grow  
Less crowding results in reduced risk of disease  
Plants don't need to compete for water and nutrients

**Explanation:** Transplanting is about creating more room for your plants so that they can thrive. You should consider which vegetables and herbs to plant close together according to companion planting principles at the planting stage. You should not wait until the plants have germinated and then move them around to abide by companion planting principles.

9) **Select the correct answer: You should harvest spinach by...**

**Answer:** Waiting until the leaves are a size you are happy with and then cutting off the three largest outer leaves

**Explanation:** By only removing the 3 outer leaves of the plant, the rest of plant continues to grow, to be harvested a later stage. By harvesting in this way you can eat off the same spinach plant for up to 18 months.

10) **Select all correct answers: Which of these vegetables produces seeds from flowers?**

**Answer:** Cabbage  
Spinach  
Carrot

**Explanation:** Generally leafy vegetables and root vegetables will produce seeds from flowers. Leave the plants unharvested until they produce a long stem. Flowers will form at the end of the stem which will contain the seeds of the plant.