



## *Tomatoes in a Well?*

Yes! This trick will give your plants a jump start on the season, making use of the sunny warm days and rising soil temperature, but protecting them from unsuitable night temperatures that drop below 45.\*

1. Take a 5gal. plastic bucket or nursery container, cut the bottom off.
2. In your prepared & amended bed, dig a deep hole so only the top 2-3” of the pot will show above ground.
3. Amend the bottom of the hole with **Plant Success Mycorrhizae** (to grow strong roots), **Actino-Iron** (to ward off root-knot nematodes), and a little **Lady Bug Garden Pep Cotton Seed Meal** (to grow more leaves!)
4. Plant your tomato as usual, pinching off the lower leaves & settling the plant into the soil.
5. Sink your container around the tomato into the ground to form the well.
6. As you backfill around the *outside* of the pot, sprinkle in a little more **Actino-Iron, Plant Success, and Cotton Seed Meal** at varying depths to feed your plant in the future.
7. Water your newly planted tomato with **Liquid Seaweed** or **John’s Recipe**.
8. Keep some row cover & rocks handy: on nights when temperatures are expected to drop below 45,\* fold the row cover over several times to make a thick cover over the top of the pot/bucket, weigh down the corners with rocks, and if possible cover early in the afternoon to build up some heat. Wait to uncover until after temperatures rise above 50,\* or leave covered for the day if you can’t get to it.
9. As your tomato grows, pinch off a few of the lower leaves, gently pull the pot up, and firm some soil around the bottom of the plant. Continue feeding with **John’s Recipe** to encourage your tomato’s growth.
10. Eventually, you’ll remove the entire pot, and place a cage around the plant. It may only look 6” tall, but it will have a foot or more of roots underneath! Keep your row cover nearby, you can wrap the cage if we get a cold night later on.

Good Luck & Have Fun!

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