

# Seeds to Trees

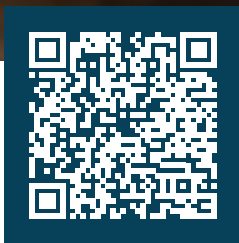
## How to guide

### 1. Growing habitat for your backyard or veranda

Start by considering “Which wildlife species do I want to help?” Is it bees, butterflies, birds, reptiles? With a little research you can then discover the plants or seeds you'll need.

If you only have a small veranda or balcony you may like to keep the focus on flowers and plants for bees, butterflies, and small nectar birds rather than a tree or shrub.

It's ok to grow trees if you have a larger backyard, keep in mind some trees can grow too big for the suburbs. It's best to get some advice from your local native nursery and think about fence-lines, underground pipes and overhead power lines.



### 2. Collecting your seeds

Start collecting! **Remember** be thoughtful about where you collect seeds. A good seed detective always asks the local council if unsure about permissions. The best option is private property where you have permission of the owner. Collecting native seeds from national parks and reserves is illegal unless you have a permit, collection of threatened species requires government approval regardless of who owns the land.

Ensure safe conditions when collecting seeds, for example: avoid hazards like roads and overhanging dead limbs, collect with a buddy and have effective communications in case of emergency. And don't forget your hat, water, boots and sunscreen!

It's important to be confident you know what species of plant you're collecting seeds from. If you're unsure contact your local native nursery or Landcare group for help with identification.


Some seeds need no preparation at all before sowing and others do, so [watch our videos](#) or ask your native nursery. Some native seeds can also be purchased online, just make sure it's not a weed and is a native that belongs to your area.


### 3. Ready to propagate?

Lay your seeds on pre-moistened soil and lightly cover over with a thin layer of soil. **Remember** you don't want to cover the seeds too thickly or they'll be smothered and won't grow at all.

Make sure your seeds have some sun, and keep them moist - don't let them dry out. Then sit back and watch them grow!

#### Materials

 Well-draining pot or container with sandy soil or seed-raising mix. **Remember** to keep the soil moist by spraying with a fine mist, not heavy watering.

 A label or paddle pop stick to note seed type and date.

### 4. Seeds to Trees!

Once your seedlings are around 10cm in height you can gently move them into a bigger pot so the root system can strengthen and grow.

Congratulations on creating your first native plant! How did you go? Let us know at [seeds2trees@cva.org.au](mailto:seeds2trees@cva.org.au).