

Setting Up A Home Drip Irrigation System

A home drip water irrigation system is a fantastic way to use less water to keep roots moist in your garden. It's less resource—and money—intensive than a full sprinkler system and can often be installed in a day or two.

MATERIALS NEEDED



Drip Irrigation Kit

If you're a seasoned professional, you may want to buy all the components to your drip irrigation system individually. For most gardeners, a pre-built kit will suffice.

Landscape Fabric from Jobe's

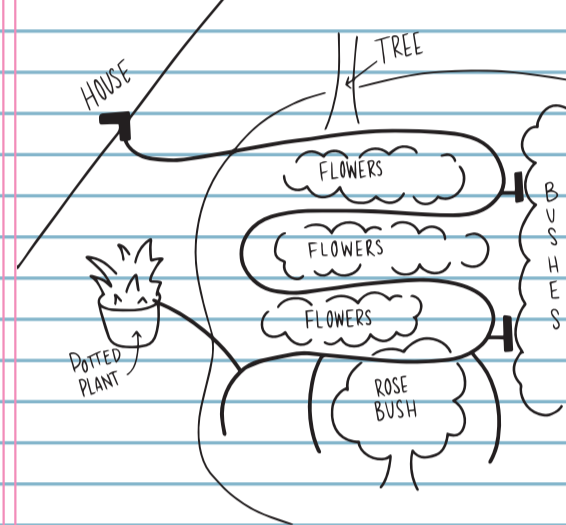
Landscape fabric—including our WeedBlock, WeedBlock Natural, and PowerGrid—will help protect your garden or plants from weeds.



Bag of Mulch

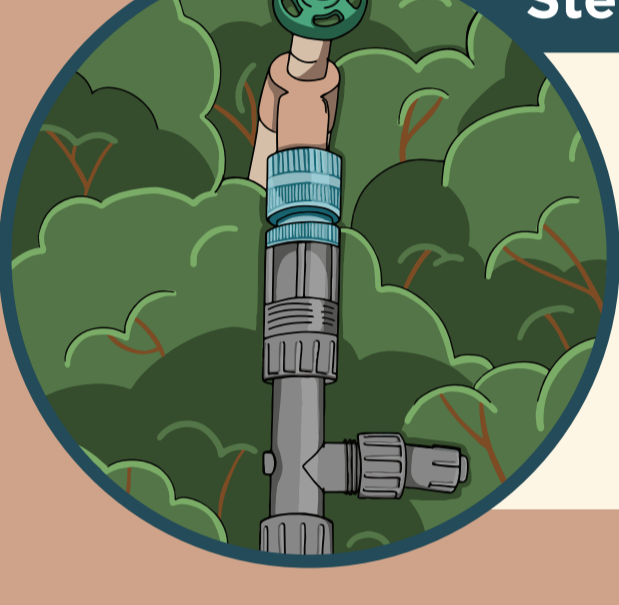
Bark mulch will absorb excess moisture and keep your tubing protected from the sun and other elements.

Step 1: Plan Out Your System



Drawing a simple sketch will help you determine how much tubing you need to buy. Irrigating your plant beds this way requires a lot of materials and tubing, so it's not a good idea for lawns.

Step 2: Connect to the Faucet



Unlike using a regular garden hose, connecting a drip irrigation system requires a few extra pieces. Connect the vacuum breaker to the pressure regulator. Connect filter to regulator. Connect the hose swivel to the threaded opening that juts out from the side of the filter. Screw everything to the hose bib.

Step 3: Roll Out Tubing

Use unperforated tubing to connect to the hose bib. Make sure it can reach the plant beds. Then attach the roll of tubing that has been perforated or with emitters. Snake the tubing around plants near the roots. Keep tubing about 12 inches apart.

If your tubing has any sharp angles or branches, cut it and use "T" or elbow connectors to keep it from kinking or bunching. Be sure to leave the end of the tubing open so that you can flush it with water.

Step 4: Attach Stakes

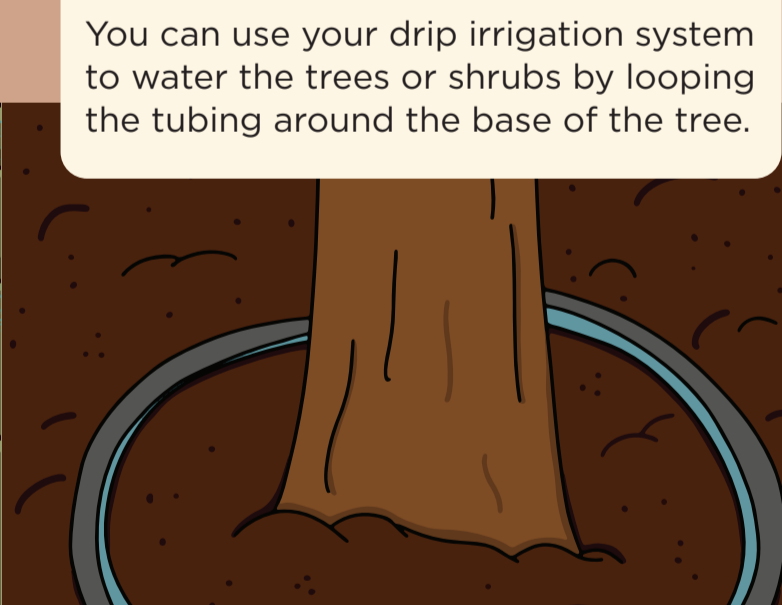
Use plastic ground stakes to secure tubing, but make sure the hook on the stake fits over the tube.



OTHER OPTIONS!

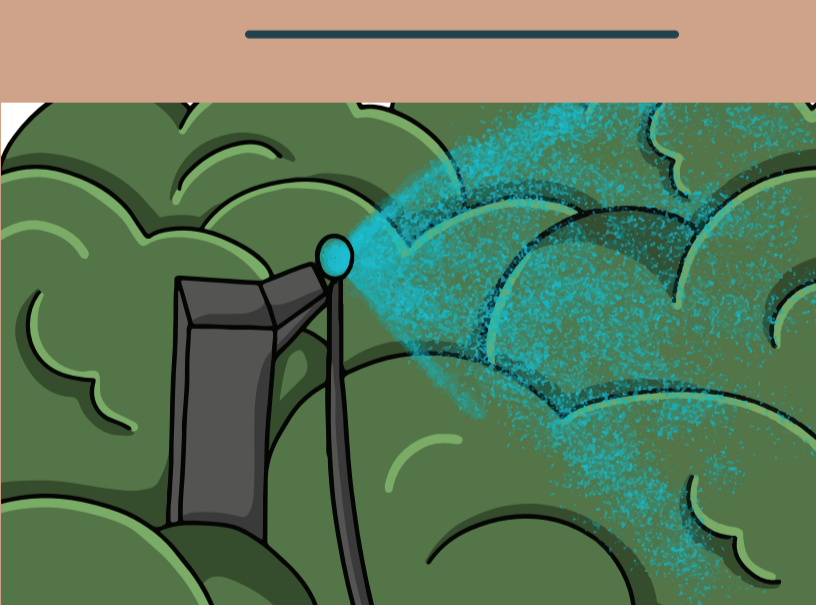
Loop Tubing Around A Tree

You can use your drip irrigation system to water the trees or shrubs by looping the tubing around the base of the tree.



Loop Tubing Around A Tree

If your plants are so dense that the tubing won't snake around the roots, you can always use micro sprayers.



Step 5: Close Off Tubing

After attaching all your tubing and accessories, turn on the water just for a second to flush dirt out of the tubing.

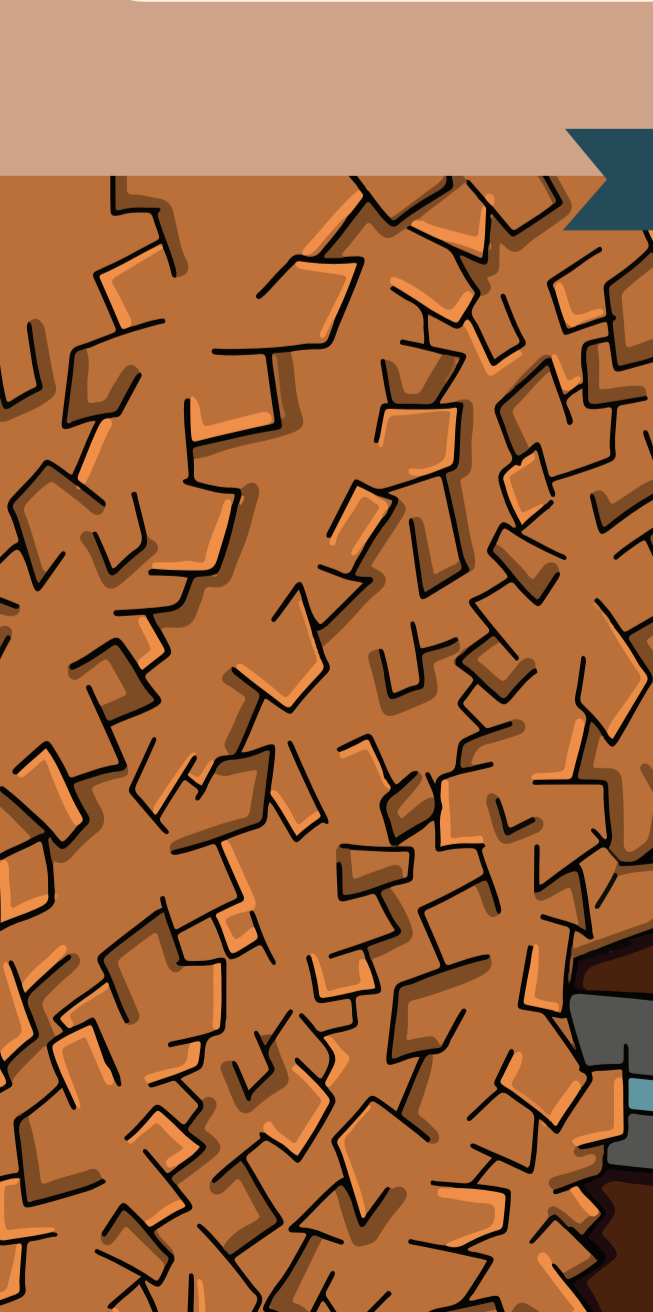
Once the water is turned back off, slide an end clamp onto the open end of the tubing, then slide the other loop of the end clamp over that folded piece.



Step 6: Cover with Mulch

Covering the tubing with mulch will help your plants retain moisture and keep the water from your drip irrigation system from evaporating too quickly.

In addition, if you are worried about weed growth, landscaping fabric can be a great way to keep both your drip irrigation tubing in place as well as to keep weeds from growing the roots of desired plants in your garden or landscaping feature.



Drip irrigation can be a great way to ensure your plants get the necessary moisture without wasting water. This DIY project can go a long way in helping you preserve water, keep plants watered, and maintain a happy, healthy garden. For more information about jobscape fabrics from Jobe's, visit jobscompany.com. We Grow Better Things™.