

How to plant & care for your

Magic Bean Tree

Materials

- Plant pot
- Potting mix
- Scoop for potting mix
- Magic Bean seed
- Paper bag

Next, How to bring your creation to life!



1. Make sure that the soil is in child-friendly containers – making it easy for people with little hands to reach.



2. Using the scoop fill the soil to the top of the plant pot and pat down gently to get most of the air out.



3. Next, check if there's some cracks in the brown Magic Bean's skin? If there is then peel off the skin.



4. If the skin hasn't cracked, that's fine you can peel skin later on when it cracks open at home.



5. Place your Magic Bean in the centre of pot laying down horizontally on top of the soil (not dug into soil).



6. Lastly, place your Magic Bean and pot in paper bag ready to take home & watch it grow.

How to Grow & Care For Your Magic Bean Tree

The Magic Bean (*Castanospermum Australe*) is a native Australian coastal rainforest tree, so it will love an environment with lots of regular water, well drained soil and full sun (although it can also grow in part shade).

Growing the Magic Bean seed

Germination requires a temperature of 18 - 25°C. So the ideal position is indoors on a sunny windowsill and water regularly. If the brown skin hasn't yet cracked, wait for it to crack and then peel it off.

The Magic Bean is slow to sprout and usually takes a couple of months. First a root will start to grow down into the soil, next the Magic Bean will split open and a shoot with leaves will grow upwards. Three months after the Magic Bean sprouts it will enjoy some slow release fertilizer or liquid fertilizer.

Caring for your Magic Bean Tree

After the seed sprouts its first leaves it can make an ideal potplant or you may choose to plant it outside. Keep in mind it needs lots of space outside and grows to a large shady tree up to 20 metres high and around 8 metres wide (plant away from underground plumbing).

As an outdoor tree during October-November it blooms sprays of colourful orange flowers that attract birds, bats and butterflies.

GREENWOOD

EARLY EDUCATION CENTRES