How to Make a Seed Bomb

1) Buy or harvest your seeds. Buy or harvest quality seeds that you know will grow well over a large area or in poor soils, without needing too much attention. Do not choose any plants that will cause ecological or other damage such as weeds, invasive plants, or ones that have destructive root systems. If you are not sure, find out which plants are problem plants for your area or region; do not just rely on general information because some plants might be ideal in their local environment but a rampant pest in yours.

• Consider the entire habitat when selecting the seeds. Do you want seeds that will create an entire new habitat, or do you just want seeds that will provide a few varieties of crops or plants? Heather C. Flores suggests that you can use anywhere from one variety of seeds to one hundred different kinds.

2) Soak the seeds for an hour or overnight in a warm, but not boiling, weak seaweed solution or compost tea. Discard any seeds that still float - seeds that float are mostly broken or damaged seeds that will not grow or that will have weak genetic stock.
3) Prepare the seed bombs.

There are four main ways to go about making the seed balls:

- Method 1. Purchase or secure some rich loam soil, or other clay type soils that can form a stable ball. The soil should be suitable for plants to grow in; make sure it is not too acidic. Shape the pure loam into a golf-sized shape ball using water to make it pliable and insert the seeds into each ball as you go, or sprinkle seeds in prior to shaping balls if easier.

- Method 2: Use semi-dry, living compost (not sterilized) and powdered red clay. Mix one part seed mix, three parts compost, and five parts clay. Shape into a round ball with your hands, adding enough water to make it pliable. It should have the consistency of cookie dough.

- Method 3. Alternatively, save up small biodegradable cardboard cartons, such as egg cartons or find biodegradable netting, such as old cotton stockings. Fill the egg cartons with the preferred soil and seed mix as above methods outline. Pinch the tips over so that the contents will not fall out. With stockings, you can fill them with a seed and soil mix, then twist, tie and cut them out much like you would do if you were making sausages.

- Method 4. Mix sawdust on a ratio of 5 parts sawdust to 1 part seed with a rapidly biodegradable, nontoxic, and preferably food safe glue and a small amount of seaweed extract. The mix should not be wet, but moist enough to form a ball. It is better to make this version in small batches.

4) Allow the seed bombs to dry out for 24 hours.
Arrange the seed bombs on a dry tarpaulin or on sheets of newspaper laid out in a sheltered area such as a shed.

5) **Plant the seed bombs.** If you have a plot with rows already dug for planting, install a ball every few feet (meters), (or as recommended by the seed producer), then cover over with existing soil.

- If you are looking to re-vegetate open space with grass or tree seeds, just throwing the seed balls will create a more random, realistic landscape, then bury them sufficiently to retain the moisture for the seed.
- If you would rather store the seed bombs for a bit, keep them in a cool, dark, and dry place for no longer than several weeks. It is best to use them when fresh though, as the seeds might begin to sprout!

6) **Watch for the growth.** If made correctly, the seedling will be visible within 2-3 weeks, or quicker in warmer conditions. The process does not really speed up germination time dramatically, but when the seedling starts growing it has ample nutrients directly at its roots so will grow quicker and more healthily.

**Project Credit Given to:** [https://www.gardenista.com/posts/diy-wildflower-seed-bombs/](https://www.gardenista.com/posts/diy-wildflower-seed-bombs/)