

THE DIGGERS CLUB

THE *Secret* TO CROP ROTATION

Crop rotation is commonly used by vegie gardeners to maximise the use of soil nutrients in the best possible way, while minimising the likelihood of soil borne pests and diseases.

HOW TO ROTATE YOUR CROPS

Crop rotation is growing a different group of plants successively in the same soil. For example, in Bed 1, plant Group 1 plants. When these are harvested, it's time to plant Group 2 plants and so on. If you have four beds at home, you simply rotate the groups around the garden to ensure the same group is not sown consecutively in the same bed.

BENEFITS OF CROP ROTATION

- Maximises the natural depletion of nutrients in the soil based on plant requirements and preferences.
- Reduces the likelihood of soil-borne pests and diseases impacting your plants.
- Creates the best environment for food crops to grow organically.



GROUP 1



LEGUMES like peas, beans and green manures increase nitrogen in the soil.

GROUP 2



LEAFY CROPS like Asian greens, lettuce and brassicas (broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower and kale) need high levels of nitrogen.

GROUP 3



FRUITING CROPS like tomatoes, eggplant, capsicum, pumpkins and zucchini need phosphorus to flower and fruit

GROUP 4



ROOT CROPS like carrots, parsnip, beetroot and radishes thrive in nutrient depleted soils

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