

A balcony garden and a neighborhood vandal

A story of how a hobby was had and a nemesis was made

UBC CSGSA UDLS Talk
Baraa Orabi
2022-09-16

How I got into balcony gardening





How I got into balcony gardening



How I got into balcony gardening

ca.apm.activecommunities.com/vancouver/Activity_Search



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Filter By: Displaying: 1-50 of 9006  

Location:	Name	Number	Date(s)	Day(s)	Time	Location	Enrolled	Openings	Fee and Action
All	"Try it Out" Open Mic <small>Age 4 and up</small> Quick View	423397	September 27, 2022 to November 29, 2022	Tue	6:30pm - 8:30pm	*West End Cmty Centre	15	0	Free We're sorry, but this Activity is full.
Area of the City: All	(Online) Emergency Preparedness – Personal &	423226	October 25, 2022	Tue	6:30pm - 7:45pm	Vancouver Park Board Rec Services	39	11	Free <input type="button" value="Add to Cart"/>

Meeting Dates:

Days of the Week:

How I got into balcony gardening



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Balcony, Container & Small Space Gardening - 387073

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This activity is closed to further registration.

Mar 17, 2022

Thu 6:30pm to 8:30pm

[📍 Location: *False Creek Community Centre](#)

[🏠 Facility: Fairview Room](#)



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Planning: Choose your plants

West Coast Seeds SEEDS BEST SELLERS SUPPLIES RESOURCES COMPANY SEASONAL [Find A Store](#) [Log in](#)

Filters Showing 59 results SORT BY ^

Category

- All Categories
- Vegetable Seeds

Collection

- Basil Seed Companions
- Borage Seed Companions
- Carrot Seed Companions
- Celery Seed Companions
- Chive Seed Companions
- Collards Seed Companions
- + More

All Filters

- Indeterminate
- In Stock
- Certified-Organic
- Open Pollinated

Sweet Million
From \$5.99
★★★★★ 19 Reviews

Indigo Rose Organic
From \$8.89
★★★★★ 7 Reviews

Sungold
From \$5.49
★★★★★ 27 Reviews

Pink Brandywine Organic
From \$3.49

Red Robin
From \$5.49

Early Girl
From \$4.99

Black Krim Organic
From \$3.49

La Roma
From \$5.89

Planning: Know their seasonality



West Coast Seeds™

Vegetable Planting Chart COASTAL BRITISH COLUMBIA

LEGEND	•••• Start Indoors	— Direct-sow	** Transplant	⌒ Cover	⌒** Transplant & Cover							
Vegetables	WINTER			SPRING			SUMMER			FALL		
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Rhubarb				•••	* *	—						
Rutabaga						—						
Sesame		••••		⌒**								
Spinach	⌒—			—						••••	⌒**	
Squash				•••••	—							
Swiss chard				—								
Tomatoes		••••••••		⌒**		* * *						
Turnips			—					—			—	

First average frost date: November 2nd. Last average frost date: March 28th (Lower Mainland BC)

<https://www.westcoastseeds.com/pages/regional-planting-charts>

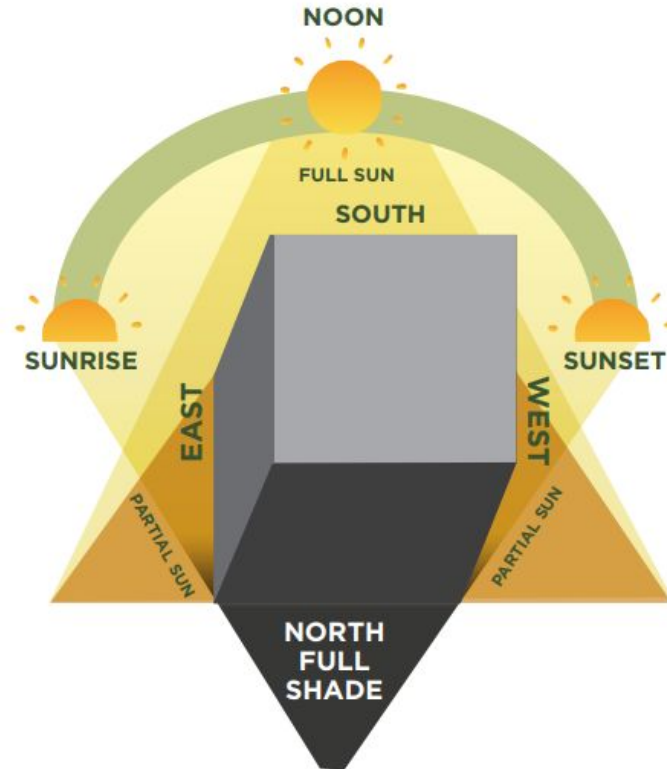
Planning: Know their spatial needs

Shallow Rooting 12" - 18"	Medium Rooting 18" - 24"	Deep Rooting 24" - 36"+
Arugula	Beans, dry	Artichokes
Broccoli	Beans, pole	Asparagus
Brussels sprouts	Beans, snap	Beans, lima
Cabbage	Beets	Okra
Cauliflower	Cantaloupe	Parsnips
Celery	Carrots	Pumpkins
Chinese cabbage	Chard	Rhubarb
Corn	Cucumber	Squash, winter
Endive	Eggplant	Sweet potatoes
Garlic	Kale	Tomatoes
Kohlrabi, Bok Choy	Peas	Watermelon
Lettuce	Peppers	
Onions, Leeks, Chives	Rutabagas	
Potatoes	Squash, summer	
Radishes	Turnips	
Spinach		
Strawberries		

Planning: Know their spatial needs

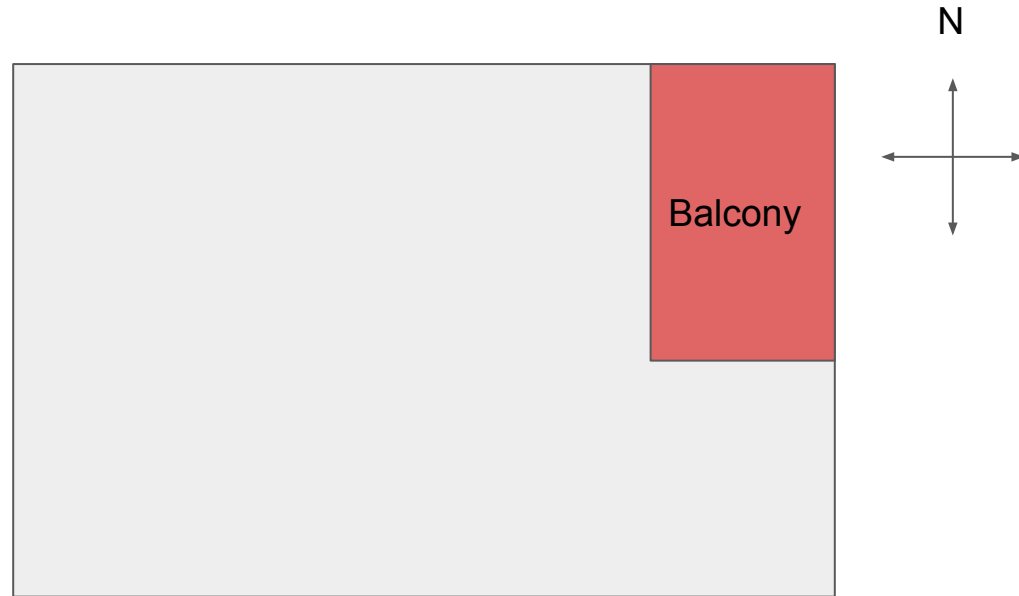
Horizontal				Vertical		
Compact	Medium	Large	Sprawling	Tall	Climbing	Invasive
Chives	Tomatoes	Potatoes	Squash	Garlic	Peas	Mint
Carrots	Lettuce	Parsnip	Cucumbers	Leeks	Beans	Oregano
Radishes	Swiss Chard	Some Kales	Rhubarb	Corn	Cucumber	
Corn Salad	Broccoli	Cabbage		Peas	Squash	
Garlic	Parsley	Fennel/Dill		Some Beans	Tomatoes	
Onion family	Beans	Rhubarb		Fennel/Dill		
Cilantro	Lemon Balm	Sage		Sunflower		
Pac Choi	Basil	Lavender				
Spinach	Oregano	Rosemary				

Planning: Know your light



From West Coast Seeds Gardening Basics

My balcony garden



My balcony garden

Mint
Arugula



My balcony garden

Cherry tomatoes



My balcony garden

Cilantro
Mint



Growing cherry tomatoes: from seeds to fruits

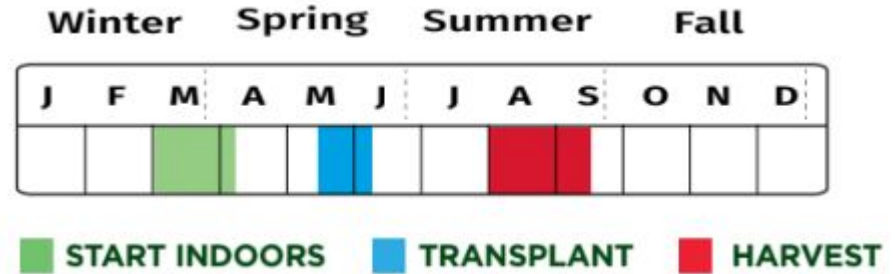
March 25th: Bought 25 seeds

seeds seeds seeds seeds
\$5.49 \$14.99 \$24.99 \$64.99



Sweet Million TM781
F1, 60-62 days. Vine. This variety can grow over 2m (6') tall with prodigiously long trusses of gorgeous little sweet, red tomatoes. It can be a task to keep this vigorous plant within bounds of a cloche or greenhouse. The plants really perform well up against a south-facing wall. Sweet Million has excellent disease resistance.

A 25 seeds B 300 seeds C 1000 seeds



April 8th: First sprouting!



April 9th: More spouting!



April 13th: All seeds sprouted!



April 13th: Some got the first *true leaf*!



April 18th: First un-natural selection and repotting!



April 23rd: They love the sun!



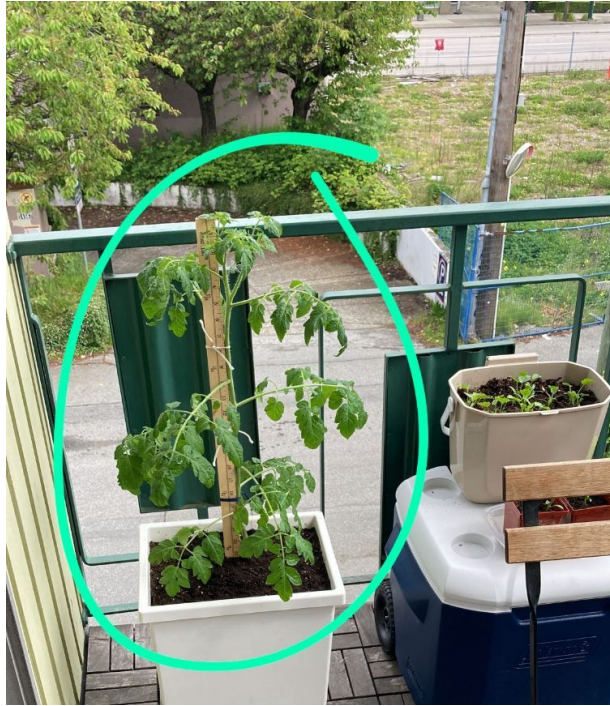
May 3rd: They love the sun!



May 20th:
It was
time to
move out!



~May 21st: First day out! Will still go back in for the night



May 25th: Pole
upgrade and
spending all night
out too



May 25th: First
flowers showing!



May 30th: First flower opening!



June 6th: First fruit!



June 16th:
Two happy
sisters!

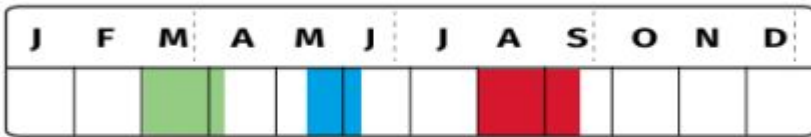


June 24th:
Tomato vines!



July 24th: First tomato harvest

Winter Spring Summer Fall



■ START INDOORS ■ TRANSPLANT ■ HARVEST



July 29th: They
can be teenie tiny!



Aug 15th: Harvest!



Aug 21st: Harvest!



Aug 30th: Harvest!



BUT, lurking in the
shadows there was a
grave danger!

July 18th: First spotting of the villain!



"Squirrels are attracted to bare soil, where they look for edible roots, nuts, and seeds, and bury treats they've found for later. Keeping bare soil covered with plants or mulch will prevent them from being attracted to the area."

**BUT then,
unbeknownst to us, he
was determined to
strike again!!!**

Since then

- The squirrel woke Pedro up from a nap by literally jumping from the bedroom window on him!
- He walked into the living room and fearlessly stared Pedro in the eyes while he was chilling on the sofa!
- Woke us up numerous times by climbing up our building wall!!!

2022-08-24

2022-08-24

Pedro Pessoa



We are under attack by squirrels

1:18 p.m.

One squirrel, I think

1:18 p.m.





2. Get a dog. Most dogs love to chase squirrels. Put them on squirrel patrol and let them scare the squirrels away.

10. Give them a drink. If squirrels are munching on your tomatoes or other juicy fruits or vegetables, they may just be thirsty. Theresa Rooney, author of [*The Guide to Humane Critter Control*](#), says, “During the growing season, provide the squirrels with a dish of fresh water...and the squirrels will probably leave those tomatoes for you to harvest.”

A horizontal decorative bar with a light beige background. It contains faint, repeating icons of various objects like a smartphone, a camera, a coffee cup, and a bell. In the center of this bar is a white rounded rectangle containing the date.

2022-08-26

2022-08-26

Pedro Pessoa

I did some detective work today 2:49 p.m.



2:50 p.m.

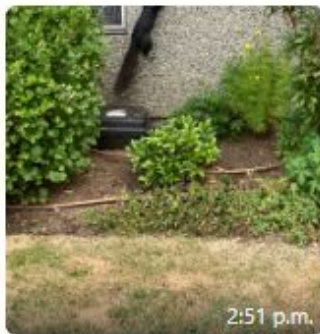
I saw the squirrel outside our building, so I followed it 2:50 p.m.

First it climbed up and entered an apartment in the second floor through the living room window 2:51 p.m.



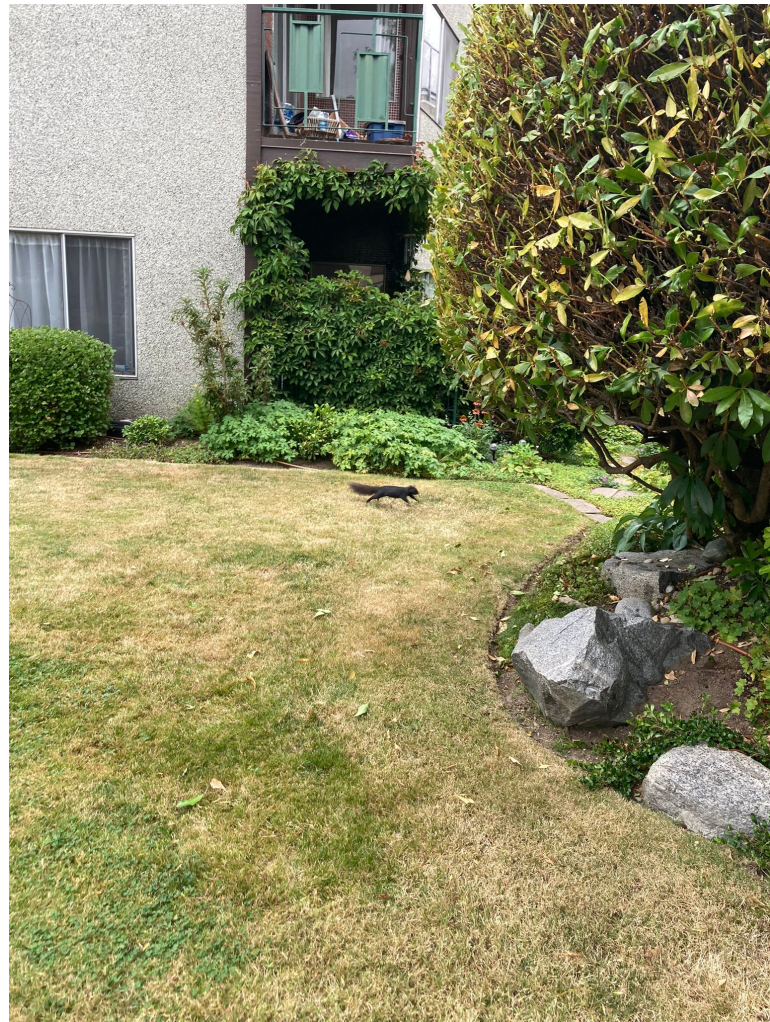


Pedro Pessoa



Climbing and entering is a felony 2:51 p.m.

It stayed inside for 10 mins! 2:52 p.m.







10. Give them a drink. If squirrels are munching on your tomatoes or other juicy fruits or vegetables, they may just be thirsty. 1

In conclusion...

