Vertical gardening is a new trend that is certainly on the rise. Whether you are space-challenged, or just looking for a little height, vertical gardens can be a great way to maximize your space and get great results!

**The Basics**

1. Start small  
2. Compost  
3. Water correctly  
4. Pick what you like  
5. Minimize maintenance  
6. Visit often

**Garden Quotes**

“The greatest fine art of the future will be the making of a comfortable living from a small piece of land.”  
~Abraham Lincoln

“A society grows great when old men plant trees whose shade they know they shall never sit in.”  
~Greek Proverb

“In search of my mother’s garden, I found my own.”  
~Alice Walker

“As long as one has a garden, one has a future. As long as one has a future, one is alive.”  
~Frances Hodgson Burnett, The Secret Garden

“I devote the major portion of my time to gardening.”  
~Alice Yoe Ijams

“What happens in the garden, stays in the garden.”  
~Peg Beute
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Start small
Small space? Start with small projects. Think about containers, fence rows, anyplace a small flower pot will fit. Repurpose old or damaged items into fun and whimsical containers. If the items don’t have drainage holes, add some. Or keep the plants in their pots so you can easily slip them out of the container to dump excess water.

Compost
Compost is the building block for organic gardening- it is easy, sweet-smelling, and inexpensive! Worm bins are a small, space-saving way to compost and community compost can provide “garden gold” for a larger group, after all sharing is caring!
Water Correctly

Watering your vertical garden is the real key to its success. Keep these things in mind as you design your space:

- Small containers mean more frequent watering
- Morning is best for outside plants
- Sub irrigated planters (SIP) use capillary action
- Edibles need consistent (daily) watering
- Succulents and flowering plants are a little more forgiving when it comes to watering

Pick What You Like

Wondering where to start? Think about things you like to look at and/or eat. Enjoy fresh flowers in your house? Plant bountiful colorful blooms. Like to cook? Try some fresh fruits and veggies or even an herb garden.
Minimize Maintenance

With a few careful choices, you can significantly cut down on the amount of time you need to spend maintaining your vertical garden. Selecting plants that thrive in your climate will decrease the amount of water and pruning necessary. Watering correctly, mulching, and composting will also allow you to not only reduce maintenance time, but also to use fewer chemical fertilizers and pesticides as well.

Visit Often

The Harvard School of Public Health recommends 15 minutes of sun exposure per day, to sit, enjoy, relax, and absorb a little Vitamin D!
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Inspiration & Ideas
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