

Dig a hole and stick it in

When I held the first [South Pas Nature Park Planting Party](#) in 2010, my directions to the group of [Occidental College](#) students on how to plant was simple and to the point: "Dig a hole and stick it in." Needless to say, I was quite surprised when this pithy advice did not lead to good results. You see these wonderful, intelligent college kids had soft, clean hands. Most had never done this before. The results were plants that wobbled in the thick layer of mulch that the city had dumped in the park. I spent quite a while with another volunteer checking and correcting these new transplants.

Now, years later, I give far too much advice, hence the YouTube videos that I have been posting for the past few weeks: [How-to Plant 1](#) (Removing plant from pot), [How-to Plant 2](#) (Removing it from pot, loosening roots, planting in container), and [Transplanting Herbs](#) (Planting 4" Herbs in containers).

This new fangled medium of videos has been a challenge for me. Although I think I have improved, they are still - what shall I say? - awful. Though there is nothing like showing, I am going to spare you all from future videos until I get an external mic and take a class or two on creating educational videos. So here's the last of the series on How-to plant, with a bit more info than "Dig a hole and stick it in" (though that really is the crux of it).