G.I.T. Garden FAQ

General Questions

- What is this kit?
    - Our Grow-It-Together Garden Kit is a complimentary kit containing a hydroponic garden and all the materials and step-by-step instructions you need to grow your own herbs and leafy greens. This is a one-off kit, not a subscription.
- Are the kits really free?
    - All of our programs are complimentary. Mather is a not-for-profit with a mission of creating Ways to Age Well,[SM] which includes providing this program free of charge.
- Why did I receive this kit?
    - You (or perhaps a friend or family member) registered for this kit by entering your email address and mailing address on our website, here. You may have found us through one of our other programs, through a friend or family member, or through our ads on the internet and social media.
- What information do you collect?
    - We ask for your name, email address, phone number, and mailing address upon registration. We do not share your information with other organizations.
- Where can I find your other programs?
    - Find more about Mather, including our other virtual and in-person programs, at https://www.mather.com/programs.

Registration

- Who can register for the kits?
    - Anyone age 50 or better and living in Illinois is welcome! If you are outside of Illinois, you are invited to try our virtual programs at https://www.mather.com/programs/virtual-programs
- Why can't I register for a kit?
    - If you are registering within Illinois and are age 50 or better, double check that you are entering your information correctly. If you are still receiving an error message, please reach out to us at kits@mather.com.

Kit and Program Contents

- What type of supplies are in each kit?
    - Your kit contains a hydroponic garden and all the materials and step-by-step instructions you need to grow your own herbs and leafy greens, including seeds and plant nutrients.
- Are the Zoom Garden Club sessions mandatory?
    - The Zoom sessions are not mandatory—although we think they're a lot of fun, and a great opportunity to ask questions and connect to others! We know not everyone's schedule allows for the monthly Zoom sessions at the time provided, which is why this program also includes video recordings and illustrated tip sheets.
- What is the Zoom link?
    - The Zoom Garden Club link is: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82266058251.
- What will I need to provide?
    - You will need to water your garden and keep it plugged in. Everything else you need will be included in your kit.
- Is this kit accessible for different levels of experience and ability?
    - This kit is designed for accessibility across different levels of dexterity, and we welcome everyone, from beginners to practiced gardeners. We use Zoom with closed captions available. If you have specific questions or concerns you would like to discuss, please reach out to us at kits@mather.com.
- How should I prepare for the garden?
    - The tip sheets and videos included with this kit will have detailed information on how to set up your garden. You'll want to make sure you place your garden in a space where you can easily plug it into an electrical outlet and conveniently access water. Make sure not to place your garden under a cabinet with other lighting – you'll want space to raise the lid of the garden, and limited competing lighting above the garden.
- Where can I find additional supplies to continue using my garden?
    - The following are some products we have used before. These are just some examples, so you can use them as a starting place to find similar supplies from other brands or stores. You can also experiment to find the sources and supplies that work for you.
        - Nutrient refills - https://a.co/d/05wVTuKR or https://a.co/d/044EmyzZ
        - Refill kit including pods, nutrients, stickers, and domes - https://a.co/d/47GEQgr or https://a.co/d/0bHahUgu

- Replacement pods and stickers - https://a.co/d/0iytMd5x or https://a.co/d/0cvw60Nh
- Replacement pods - https://a.co/d/03EV3Cdl or https://a.co/d/ici6APP
- Seeds - https://www.seedneeds.com/ or https://survivalgardenseeds.com/ or https://www.gethsemanegardens.com. The Chicago Public Library also has many seed libraries. For more information, see: https://www.chipublib.org/news/seed-libraries-at-select-chicago-public-library-branches/.