

The Martha Stewart Living

VEGETABLE GARDEN

EVERYTHING YOU NEED **PRIMER** FROM SEED TO HARVEST

OUR EXPERTS

With decades of experience and bushels of organic produce between them, these are our gardening gurus.

Stephen Orr

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Nº1 BASIC ELEMENTS

MARTHA STEWART Living



grow your own

**It's time to
START PLANTING!**

EAT IT UP
This issue is
now available
on the iPad!
Download it at
marthastewart.com/apps

now your soil

your garden—and that goes double when you're reluctant to learn as much as you can so your soil is rich in elements and nutrients to make it rich the better the veg.

joy of compost

Best way to improve soil is by adding compost—decomposed organic matter. You can buy it at a garden center or a nursery. But if you make your own, you'll find a useful way to recycle lawn clippings, kitchen scraps, and newspaper. Go to marthastewart.com/composting-101 to learn how.

"As a first step, a soil test is important. Your cooperative extension will tell you how to easily evaluate your soil."

—STEPHEN ORR

Cedar standing planter

This two-foot-tall, three-foot-square planter is a handsome addition to a patio or a deck, and it lets you garden from a seated position. The red-gold cedar is rot resistant. \$149 by Cedar Creek, from eartheasy.com.



M-brace corner braces

Inspired by a simple napkin holder, this elegant recycled-steel system (in several designs) lets gardeners use their own lumber to create square or rectangular beds up to 12 feet long. \$140 for a set of 4, artofthegarden.net.

