Assembly Instructions

For video see the support page at **www.vegepod.com.au**

Small 1m x 0.5m

Component Checklist

	Base Container	1
	Side Panel - Lip	6
	Side Joiner - Lip	2
	Corner Connector - Lip	4
	Drain Tray	3
	Plastic bolts & wing-nuts	18
	Cable Ties	6

Assembly

1. Join Drain Trays together - Lay 3 drain trays face down on level ground and tie together by inserting small cable ties through aligned holes in sides of trays and pull tight. Place tied trays in the bottom of container garden with the flat side up.

2. Create a perimeter with all of the panels by sliding them together.
   Slide and click panels together.
   There is a small RELEASE CLIP if you need to disassemble.
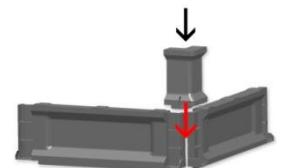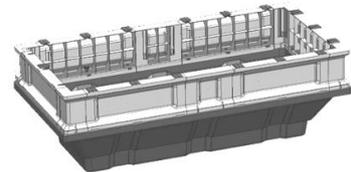
   Lift onto containers and ensure top rim is seated with lip on inside of containers.

3. Push bolts into all of the holes that join the top rim panels to the base containers.
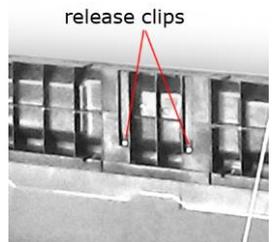
   ** Lift rim slightly so bolts drop through easily.
   ***   IMPORTANT
   ENSURE ALL BOLTS ARE INSERTED BEFORE WING-NUTS ARE PUT ON.
4. Tighten wing nuts

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Positioning

Sun, sun and more sun is what you are after. The Vegecover will protect your plants from severely hot days so make sure they have more than enough heat and light to promote rapid growth. Position it before filling with soil as it will be too heavy to move.

Filling

The Small Vegepod (1m x 0.5m) requires 4/5 bags of potting mix to fill. It is important to use a quality mix – stay clear of the cheap mixes under $5.

We recommend a mix of:

- 4 bags (25 litre) of standard potting mix
- 1 bag (25 litre) of cow manure

If you can find perlite (about 25 litres) it is useful to add to the soil mix. It lightens the soil and also retains water. Vermiculite can be used also. You would substitute 1 x 25l bag of perlite for 1 x 25l bag of potting mix.

Place a layer of perlite on top of the trays(approx. 20mm) filling the wicking wells. If you don't have perlite it is fine to start mix with potting mix and cow manure.
Add 1 bag of potting mix and 1 bag of cow manure and some perlite if you have it into the Vegepod container and mix together. Top off with 3 bags of potting mix and rest of perlite. Mix in.

Perlite is available from some nurseries, hardwares or hydroponic shops. It helps lighten the soil and also retains moisture. If you cannot locate perlite it is quite OK to use 4 bags of potting mix as a substitute.

Planting

You can fit approx. 3/4 punnets of seedlings into the small Vegepod. Place the taller growing plants furthest away from the sun. Leave space around edges as closing the lid when your plants are established can be difficult.

Or you can plant seeds - just scatter and thin out when they shoot up.

Watering

The biggest problem we have discovered is over-watering which inhibits growth. The Vegepod has superior water management capabilities and makes excellent use of every drop.

The Vegecovers let some rain in, breaking it into a fine mist so keep in mind when watering. A good downpour will fill the reservoirs or leaving the watering system on for half an hour will also. Once full the reservoir will leak excess water out of the small overflow hole.

1st week – water your seedlings with the mist-spray system daily for the first 7 days (5 – 10 minutes a time depending on season).

2nd week – reduce watering dependant on weather. If you have maximum sun (8 hours or more) then water on hot days for a few minutes at a time. If you have minimum sun (4 hours or less of direct sunlight) then water only on very hot days. Or twice a week for a few minutes.

3rd week and beyond – only water on hot days. The plants are now getting most of their required moisture from the reservoir.

➢ It is possible to leave your plants for up to 2 weeks without watering if they are established
➢ It is also possible to attach a 24 hour timer to your tap - remember don't over-water!