

## "Patio Pocket Planters" (Instructions for Use)

To start with, be sure to insert the center watering tube down over the tapered cone at the bottom of the planter. **Use only mild pressure to insert the tube, arrow pointing down.** You may choose to use seeds to start with, or transfer already established plants into your planter. Either way, follow the instructions below for ensuring good success with your custom "Patio Pocket Planter".

Just remember these **three very basic things**; *The Right Growing Media*, *The Right Amount of Water* & *The Right Amount of Nutrients*. (And of course, an appropriate amount of Sunlight!)

### **The Right Soil:**

You do not want to load down your planter with heavy, compacted garden soil. You simply want to use a good lightweight soil mixture with a good nutrient base already loaded in it. If you don't want to mix your own, **the easiest way is to purchase an already pre-mixed bag of lightweight potting mix from your local garden center.** Many of these bagged mixes already have a slow release fertilizer in them. Consult with your local garden center about a good mix to use for container gardening.

*Your Patio Pocket Planter holds approximately 2.8 cu. ft. of growing media.*

### **The Right Amount of Water:**

Because watering is so critical to the success of container gardening, **we have designed our "Patio Pocket Planters" with a unique perforated watering tube inserted into the middle of the container** to provide an adequate supply of water to all the plants.

Each time you water, you can pour water on the top surface, on the side cups and then directly down into the watering tube to ensure for good soil saturation throughout the planter.

*(When you first fill up your planter, make sure to adequately wet the soil in the bottom of the planter to prevent water running out of the drain holes the first time you pour water into the watering tube!)*

### **The Right Amount of Nutrients:**

The potential for loss of nutrients can be higher for container gardening than that of traditional gardening. For this reason, it is important to add a source of nutrients periodically to ensure for proper feeding of the plants. Follow the instructions above for adding dry fertilizer, or simply start with a good organic compost mix. Then, add a water soluble fertilizer to your plants every 7 – 10 days, especially during blooming and fruit yielding times. **(Some bagged potting mixes have slow release fertilizers in them that may feed the plants for up to 6 months or longer, check the bag for feeding instruction guidelines.)**

If you purchased one of our 5-wheel dolly carts, there is a wooden plug provided to help hold the dolly in place on the bottom of the planter.

