



Hillermann's
Kids' Club

Making Seed Tapes

Let's get Gardening!

What You Need:

Newspapers

Flour

Water

Mixing bowl

Spacing & planting information from your seed packets

A roll of plain white, unscented toilet paper or paper towels

Seeds

Ruler or tape measure

Waterproof marker

Narrow stick or cotton swabs

Stirring spoon

A friend



What to Do:

1. If your work surface needs to be protected, cover it with newspaper.
2. In your bowl, mix up the flour with just enough water to make a thick mush. When the mixture feels and looks like soupy mashed potatoes, it's perfect.
3. Choose a packet of seeds, and decide how long you want the row of that vegetable or flower to be.
4. On top of your work surface, unroll a strip of toilet paper or paper towels the length of your planned garden row.
5. Find out how far apart these particular seeds should be planted (this will be on your seed packet.) Then, with your ruler and marker, measure down the center of the strip, and make a mark at the place each seed should go. If you're making a carrot-seed tape, for example, make marks every 2 to 3 inches.
6. Dip a cotton swab or narrow stick into the paste mixture, and dab a drop or two of it onto every mark on the tape. (If you're too impatient to bother with dabbing, just dribble a thin line of paste all the way down the strip.)
7. Place the seeds onto the paste, one at each mark you made. Then let the paste dry.
8. When it's time to plant, make a trench in your garden soil as deep as the planting depth for your seed (For carrots, the trench should be about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep.)
9. Have a friend help you set the tape down into the trench.
10. Cover the seed tape with fine soil and an orderly row of plants will sprout up in no time at all.

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