Bucket Drip Irrigation
For The Home Garden

SETTING UP A BUCKET DRIP-IRRIGATION SYSTEM FOR THE HOME GARDEN

**Supplies Needed:**
- One 5-gallon bucket
- 1/2” ID tubing
- Valved Coupler (5/8”)
- Barbed 5/8” tee
- Emitters
- Cinnder blocks, stones or lumber
- Cotton cloth; or mesh screen
- Barbed 5/8” tee cord or string

**Tools Needed:**
- Hand pruners
- Knife or box cutter

**STEP ONE:**
Use the pruner or a drill to create a hole in the bottom of the bucket for the placement of the grommet (be careful not to make the hole too big or the grommet will not fit snugly and the bucket will leak.

**STEP TWO:**
Insert the grommet into the hole in the bottom of the bucket.

**STEP THREE:**
Insert the coupler into the grommet. It should fit snugly.

**STEP FOUR:**
Create a “stand” for the bucket about 40” high. Set the bucket on the stand.

**STEP FIVE:**
Attach ½” tubing to the open end of the coupler. Length of tubing should almost touch ground.

**STEP SIX:**
Attach the tee to the open end of the tubing. You can attach up to 48 feet of ½” tubing to each open end of the tee. Lay the tubing straight on the even ground. You can use stones to weigh down the tubing until it relaxes and lays flat. Lay the tubing where you intend to place your plants to be irrigated.

**STEP SEVEN:**
Crimp the open ends of the tubing and secure by tying off with rope or string.

**STEP EIGHT:**
Punch holes for emitters approximately 15 inches apart. Insert emitters into holes. You will hear a “snap” when the emitter is properly seated into the hole.
STEP NINE:
Place a “filter” over the top of the bucket and secure with string or cord. Use cotton cloth, or window screen. Keep the bucket covered at all times to avoid debris buildup that will cause the irrigation system to fail. Routinely clean the filter or it will eventually clog.

STEP TEN:
Fill the bucket. If an emitter is not working, open the tubing end and allow water to wash debris out, then re-crimp and tie the end of the tubing.

STEP ELEVEN:
Let two buckets of water drip to pre-moisten the soil before planting. Planting area must be flat to get the desired water distribution.

Sources:
Chris Skellenger
11 Oaks: Part 2: The Bucket kit and laying the pipe.wmv: https://youtu.be/nKa5lMFOyTe

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