

Containers

The container needs to be clear or translucent on top and able to hold approximately 4 inches of soil with enough headroom for seedlings to grow. Also need to be able to put in drainage holes and holes on top to let in rain and snow. Things like the large squarish clear plastic lettuce containers work, other types of larger plastic food containers, etc. The nice thing about milk jugs or something similar in size is that they don't dry out as fast as smaller containers will.

From the Facebook site on winter sowing:

Anything that will hold a couple inches of dirt and has a little bit of headspace works. You may have to modify the process for your location, but it works.

- * Nursery containers covered with clear plastic. Saran wrap works but I prefer cereal or cracker bags.

- * Small yogurt containers put inside a comforter bag.

- * Containers stacked inside one of those mini greenhouses. The plastic was cracked & broken, unusable as a greenhouse, but it worked great as a winter sowing "container".

- * Assortment of containers when I ran out of milk jugs. Even cardboard boxes covered with plastic work, just don't plan on moving them around.

- * Yogurt cups with the bottoms removed work to keep different varieties separated. I was able to start several dozen varieties of tomatoes in 2 large planters.

Other things I've tried (no pics) include

- * Using plastic bottles as cloches, shove the bottle into the ground to protect things I direct sow early.

- * Wicker baskets covered with plastic. Works better late in the season when there's less likelihood of hard freezes.

- * Coffee cans. Cut a big hole in the lid, cover the container with plastic & snap the lid back on.

- * Drink cups, you're throwing them away anyway so why not grow some seeds in it first.

- * Aluminum roasting pans. After the Christmas turkey is eaten, rinse it out, poke a few holes & fill with dirt. Again, it's going in the trash so use it for some seeds first.

Water jugs, the gallon Hawaiian punch drink or Arizona tea jugs, translucent cat litter jugs, 2-liter soda bottles, ask a local coffee shop for their milk containers, anyone who uses a CPAP would be using distilled water

Cool whip containers and large plastic ice cream containers

Clear plastic containers that pretzels or twizzlers come in (bulk size)

Large plastic totes: put seeds in small plastic pots and then put pots in a plastic tote with a lid. Poke holes in the top and bottom and sides of the tote.