

Fertiliser Guide

TYPE	FREQUENCY	METHOD	PROS	CONS
1. Organic based composts & soil improvers	4-6 times a year	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Spread a layer of soil improver and compost over the soil. 2. Work the organic matter into the soil using a garden fork. 3. Water 4. Mulch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organic solution • Can be inexpensive • Improves soil 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Back-breaking • Must be repeated frequently • Can be smelly • Takes more time than other methods
2. Instant hit granular or powder	12 times a year	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Using a glove, take a handful of granulated fertiliser and sprinkle it over the soil surface. 2. Water. 3. Reapply as necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy to apply • Includes a wide range of nutrients • Quick injection of nutrients 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can contain trace amounts of toxic chemicals. • Dumps nutrients quickly • Needs frequent applications • Dusty – wear gloves and mask. • Wasted nutrients
3. Slow release fertiliser	4-6 times a year	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Using a glove, take a small amount of slow release fertiliser and sprinkle it around the garden. 2. Water. 3. Reapply as necessary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent particle size for even release of nutrients • Easy to apply • Wide range of formulations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuously release nutrients into the soil until they dissolve completely. • Wasted nutrients.
4. Controlled release fertiliser	2 times a year	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lightly sprinkle the controlled release fertiliser where needed. 2. Water. 3. Reapply in 6 months 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balanced release of nutrients – just when plants need it • No wasted nutrients. • Easy to apply • Targeted feeding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Way seem more expensive at first, but is actually much cheaper in the long run.