

How to make a seed bomb

Seed Bombs are easy to make. The ratio for the ingredients is 5 parts of clay earth to 1 part seeds. When making seed bombs, please remember to use seeds that are appropriate for, and native to, the area where they will be used.



Basic Recipe

- 4 parts clay
- 1 part soil/earth
- 1 part seeds



Directions

1. Take a handful of clay and roll it into a ball.
2. Put the ball on a flat surface and press it down with your palm, flattening it into a large circle resembling a small thick tortilla.
3. Place the soil in the middle of the clay. Spread the soil evenly around the center, leaving the edge of the clay soil free.
4. Place the seeds on top of the soil. Spread the seeds evenly over the soil, leaving the edge of the clay seed and soil free.
5. Enclose the seeds and soil within the clay. Roll it like a swiss roll, crimp the edges like a dumpling, or fold it like a taco or a burrito.
6. Squeeze and knead the mixture, gently at first, so that the seeds and dirt stay inside the clay. Continue until all the ingredients are thoroughly mixed. Since we are using white clay, the result should look a bit like a cookies and cream ice cream.
7. Once the mixture is thoroughly mixed, it is time to shape your seed bombs. Roll the mixture into a log, then cut it into even segments to roll into evenly sized balls. Or, make one or more larger balls or shapes. Seed balls can be anywhere from 1/2 inch to 3 inches round. The larger the seed bomb is, the longer it will take to dry.
8. Allow seed bombs to dry for 24-48 hours before using or deploying them. It is best to dry them in the sun, when possible.
9. Keep seed balls dry before using or placing them.



The History of the Seed Bomb

Excerpt from <https://www.seedbomb.ie/2015/02/history-seed-bombs/>



The Seed Bomb has been used effectively throughout time, seed bombs have validity; if you know it has been tried, and tested to perfection. When it comes to seed bombs, one man has done just that.

Masanobu Fukuoka incorporated his ancestral gardening techniques into his own farming methods and, in so doing, started a revolution. **Seed bombs are an ancient Japanese practice called Tsuchi Dango, meaning Earth Dumpling.** Seed bombs, made from clay earth, were reintroduced in 1938 by Japanese microbiologist/ farmer Masanobu Fukuoka (1913–2008), author of *The One Straw Revolution*.



Fukuoka led the way into the world of sustainable agriculture by initiating 'natural farming'. His methods were simple and produced no pollution. His technique used no machines or chemicals and almost no weeding.

Seed bombing was part of Fukuoka's annual farming regime. He believed that Mother Nature takes care of the seeds we sow and decides which crops to provide us with, like a process of natural selection, because ultimately nature decides what will grow and when germination will occur, be that in 7 days or several seasons away.



Fukuoka grew seed bomb vegetables like wild plants – he called it 'semi wild'. He seed bombed on river banks, roadsides and wasteland and allowed them to 'grow up' with the weeds. He believed that vegetables grown in this way – including Japanese radish, carrots, burdock, onions and turnips – are stronger than most people think. He would add clover to his vegetable mixes because it acted as a living mulch and conditioned the soil.