



**weekend**  
Gardening

# Dig this lot!

Portable sinks, pop-up greenhouses, even an upside-down plant pot – the latest gadgets and gizmos every savvy gardener should have



**The Thingy £14.95**  
Claiming to reduce back strain by more than 25 per cent, this gadget can be attached to a garden fork, spade, shovel or hoe to increase leverage and minimise bending. Easily transferred from tool to tool.  
[www.milishop.org.uk](http://www.milishop.org.uk)



**AnySharp £14.99**  
Anyone who has tried to prune with blunt shears or secateurs will appreciate this handy little gadget, which can be used to sharpen a range of garden tools. It works on spades, saws, loppers and even lawnmower blades.  
[www.anysharp.com](http://www.anysharp.com)



**Pop-Up Greenhouse from £9.99**  
Most young plants need a little more protection from the elements, and this light, practical pop-up greenhouse can be moved to where it is needed most. Available in various shapes and sizes.  
[www.lakeland.co.uk](http://www.lakeland.co.uk)



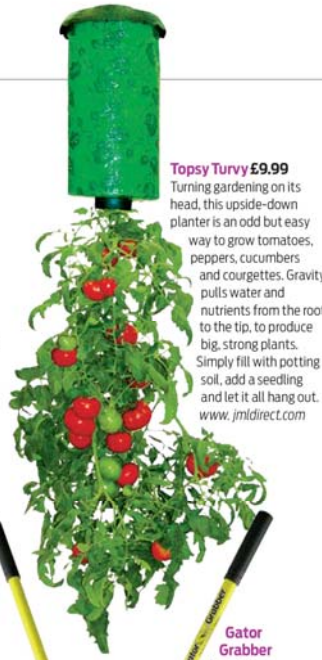
**Self-watering bulbs £21.50 for eight**  
Watering plants can be a somewhat hit-and-miss affair. These pretty hand-blown glass bulbs – which come in two different sizes – are an ingenious and effective solution, delivering a consistent amount of water into the soil each day.  
[www.qvcuk.com](http://www.qvcuk.com)



**Garden Wash £141**  
Cleaning your dirty hands outdoors after working in the garden isn't always easy. This innovative portable hand-washing device is the solution, storing enough hot water for ten washes, and holding the dirty water for disposal later.  
<http://tealwash.com>



**Garden Groom £79.99**  
This hand-held trimmer neatens up small hedges and bushes with ease – but it can struggle with bigger jobs. Its blade is enclosed, for safety, while its in-built shredding and collecting system saves on clearing up.  
[www.jmldirect.com](http://www.jmldirect.com)



**Topsy Turvy £9.99**  
Turning gardening on its head, this upside-down planter is an odd but easy way to grow tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers and courgettes. Gravity pulls water and nutrients from the root to the tip, to produce big, strong plants. Simply fill with potting soil, add a seedling and let it all hang out.  
[www.jmldirect.com](http://www.jmldirect.com)



**Gator Grabber £23.95**  
This efficient gadget picks up anything, from leaves to litter. Lightweight and with telescopic handles that can be adjusted to any height of user – so reducing back strain – it has tooth-lined jaws so it can grab and hang on to garden waste.  
[www.smarterproducts.co.uk](http://www.smarterproducts.co.uk)



**Sun Jar £19.99**  
Make the days seem longer with this gizmo that catches the sun's rays, then releases them at night to produce a warm ambient glow as you sit and admire your garden.  
[www.firebox.com](http://www.firebox.com)



**Ladybird hose guards £3.99 each**  
Simple and affordable, these cute guards can be dotted around at strategic points to keep your garden hose away from hazards or precious plants, avoiding damage and annoying tangles.  
[www.lakeland.co.uk](http://www.lakeland.co.uk)

**Daily Mail**  
NATIONAL GARDEN  
COMPETITION 2010



## Last call for garden glory

It's not too late to enter this year's Daily Mail National Garden Competition. Now in its 18th year, this prestigious event attracts thousands of entries – and the now-famous blue plaques awarded to the finalists can be seen in outstanding gardens all over the UK. It doesn't matter whether you have a balcony or acres of land, if you're proud of your garden you stand a chance of winning the £2,000 top prize. What our judges are looking for is the garden that best reflects the owner's personality and skill. So, if you love your garden, enter the competition and let us enjoy it too.

**HOW TO ENTER**

Send your entry to National Garden Competition, PO Box 486, Fleet GU51 9FF by Thursday 15 July, and include the following: between four and eight photos of your garden – unfortunately, we cannot return these; a plan of your garden; your contact details, including name, postal address, telephone numbers (including mobile) and email address. Our expert judges will make a shortlist of gardens to visit, from which the six finalists will be decided. If the judges shortlist your garden and wish to visit it, you will be contacted on 19 July, and visited on 21 or 22 July. The six finalists will be featured in Weekend in August. Final judging will take place in mid-August and the winner announced in September.

**THE RULES**

The Daily Mail National Garden Competition is open to all amateur gardeners. The gardener should have designed and principally built the garden themselves. Entrants should maintain the garden themselves, with no more than one part-time helper. By entering the competition, gardeners should be aware that their gardens may be used for promotional purposes in conjunction with the competition. Entrants must be 18 or over. Usual Daily Mail rules apply; see [www.daily-mail.co.uk/promotions](http://www.daily-mail.co.uk/promotions). The judges' decision is final.

**THE PRIZES**

The first prize is £2,000. All six finalists will receive a specially commissioned plaque as well as a set of framed photographs of their gardens.

PHOTOS: GARDEN COMPETITION; SHUTTERSTOCK