

# 5 Fun Ways to Use Yarn in the Garden



I am a crafter. Mostly, I crochet, although I also knit and weave and collage and enjoy some other crafty activities. As a result of my craft, I have a lot of yarn in my home. Most of it I will use to crochet, of course. However, over the years, I've found that yarn can be used in myriad ways. So, I got to thinking, how could I use yarn in the garden? Here are five ways that the frugal material of yarn can add both beauty and function to your gardening:

## 1. Self-Watering Plants With Yarn

Don't spend a lot of money on an automatic drip system to water your plants. Instead, use yarn. [Real Simple](#) explains that you can place a jar of water near your potted plants. Insert one end of yarn into the jar and the other deep into the soil of the plant. When the plant needs water, it will actually draw what it needs through the yarn from the jar. Amazing, right?!

## 2. Make Wool Compost

There are many different fiber types when it comes to craft yarn. If you craft with wool, then you have a lot more options in the garden. It's a natural material that will break down in the environment. It's safe for your land and your plants. For example, you can actually make a [wool compost](#) that works as well as peat does for mulching.

## 3. Make a Yarn Trellis

There are many different yarn trellis patterns and tutorials. Whether you make a simple yarn grid or a complex crochet trellis, you can use this in your garden to grow your plants vertically. It's one of the most affordable ways to build up and it's pretty as well.

## 4. Decorating the Garden with Yarn

Speaking of pretty, decor is one of the most popular ways to use your yarn in the garden. You can [yarnbomb](#) your plants and trees, knit or crochet ornaments to hang in the garden or create an entire little yarn fairy garden. Yarn adds even more color to your garden.

Note that you can also use yarn to label your plants. Assign each plant a specific color of yarn. Tie that color to a plant stake to place in the ground near the seeds for that plant. This is a great way to both decorate your garden with yarn and also remember what you planted where before it starts to grow each season!

## 5. Plant Holders

You can decorate any of your plant holders, indoor or out, using yarn. You can crochet or macrame hanging baskets to hold pots that you want to keep up off of the floor. Even if you

don't have any specific craft skills, you can wrap yarn around containers or pots of any size to decorate them.

## **BONUS: Crafting in the Garden**

Although I didn't include it in the main list, I can't neglect to mention the most obvious way that you can enjoy yarn in your garden. You can take your yarn out into the garden and craft there! Knitting and crochet offer so many health benefits. So does nature. When you combine the two by crafting in the garden, you reap more benefits of each/

### **Read More:**

- [DIY Squash Trellis Under \\$10](#)
- [Frugal Container Gardening](#)
- [7 Financial Benefits of Backyard Gardening](#)

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## **DIY Squash Trellis Under \$10**



Growing squash is a great idea. There are many great squash varieties to feed your family. However, you want to plan ahead when growing squash. If you don't, then this plant can take over your entire garden. In particular, you'll want to train your squash to grow on a trellis. Here are some great ideas for how to make a DIY squash trellis under \$10.

## Why You Need a Squash Trellis

[Rural Sprout](#) explains that squash will absolutely overrun a garden if you plant this vegetable without a trellis. Like an octopus, they'll reach their tentacles all over the place. This can wreak havoc on your other plants. Therefore, you want to use a squash trellis. You can train the squash to grow up a vertical trellis. According to Rural Sprout, the benefits of vertical gardening for squash plants include:

- Saves space, allowing for more squash growth while retaining space to grow other plants
- Keeps squash fruit off of the ground, improving the fruit and the plants as a whole (yes, squash is a fruit)
- It's easier to harvest squash grown vertically on a trellis
- The vertical design gives you opportunities for enhancing your garden's aesthetic design

## Squash To Grow on a Trellis

There are many different types of squash that you can grow in your backyard garden. [Gardening Know How](#) says that some of the best squash for vertical gardening include acorn squash, delicata, yellow summer squash and zucchini. You can grow other squash vertically but the heavier varieties will require stronger trellis reinforcement.

## How to DIY Squash Trellis Under \$10

You can purchase a squash trellis. However, frugal gardeners can easily make a DIY squash trellis under \$10. Here are some great examples of how to do so:

Put some basic woodworking skills to the test to create this DIY Squash Trellis under \$10. As you can see, you'll make some simple cuts in your wood. You'll actually use 10 1x2x96 furring strips, which cost less than \$1 each at most home improvement stores. Assemble the smaller and larger pieces as shown in the video, propping them up together to create the squash trellis. As long as you already have the saw and drill, this is a very affordable project.HJ

Here's another great example of how to DIY a squash trellis. In this example, you buy 5' stakes designed for growing tomatoes and other plants. You attach them to the planter at

an angle so that the squash (or in this example, the cucumbers) can grow upwards at that angle. Then you build out the frame to create a fuller trellis. You add wires horizontally within the frame. The vine tendrils from your squash will climb those wires. This is another super simple project under \$10.

## Tips For Growing Squash

Here are some additional tips for vertical squash gardening:

- You can adapt these DIY ideas to any wood or fencing that you already have at home. It's great to repurpose those items.
- Secure your vertical trellis posts deep in the ground. You want the bottom of the trellis to be able to bear a lot of vertical weight as the squash plants grow.
- Make sure that your plants get plenty of sunlight.
- Train the plants to grow where you want them to by guiding the vines onto the trellis wires as they grow.
- For heavier squash plants, either grow them on the ground or add slings to support the squash as they grow. Otherwise they can break off at the stems. Watch as they grow in size to get a sense of whether or not you'll need this additional support.

## Read More:

- [5 Winter Squash Varieties for the Frugal Gardener Short on Space](#)
- [7 Plants You Can Direct Seed](#)
- [Is It Worth It To Grow Your Own Pumpkins?](#)