

# TRELLISING

## TRELLISING

certain crops is a great way to save space in the garden, reduce disease, add support, increase production, make harvesting easier, + enhance the overall health of your plants!

### WHAT CAN I TRELLIS?

Trellising works best with fruiting crops. Many crops are naturally sprawling + can be grown vertically with a little support. Trellis:

Bitter melon

Melons

Peas

Cucumbers

Malabar Spinach

Pole beans

Eggplants

Peppers

Tomatoes

### WHEN DO I TRELLIS?

Put up your trellis before the plant needs support. It is really difficult to trellis once your plants are big. Use a correct spacing, pruning + trellising from the start of the season.

### HOW DO I TRELLIS?

There are many different trellising methods. You can use found or purchased materials, + existing fences. It is important to start off with a strong structure to support your plants. They seem small now, but they will get big! The metal tomato cages + other prefab trellis are often not strong enough + can make it difficult to harvest + prune.

## TYPES OF TRELLISING

### 1. THE FLORIDA WEAVE for tomato, pepper + eggplants:

This technique uses strong posts (6ft u-posts or 2x2's pounded at least 1.5ft in the ground)





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## 2. WIRE OR PLASTIC MESH + POSTS:

Vertical trellising works well for pole beans, bitter melon, + cucumbers.

1. Pound in a U-post at an angle at the each end of the bed.
2. Space tall posts about 8 feet apart (or less)
3. Weave the netting over the tall posts
4. Weave string through the top row of the trellis + wrap around the top of each post to keep the netting from slipping as crops



## KNOTS

Learning a couple handy knots makes your trellis easy to tighten + take down.

THE TRUCKER'S HITCH is one of those knots that, once you learn it, you wonder how you got along without it! This combination of knots allows you to pull string as tight as a guitar string.

