

Drip Irrigation Setup

Efficient, targeted watering straight to the root zone

DIFFICULTY Easy–moderate
TYPE One-off setup, ongoing use
TIME A few hours to a day



DIFFICULTY
Easy–moderate



TIME
Half a day



COST
Low–moderate



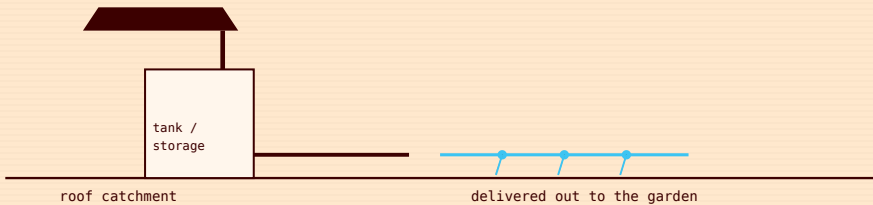
BEST SEASON
Set up any time,
used through the
growing season



FREQUENCY
Automated once
installed

01 Water where it's needed

Drip irrigation delivers water slowly and directly to the base of each plant through a line of emitters, dramatically reducing evaporation and waste compared to overhead watering.



02 What you'll need

- Poly pipe or drip tape
- Emitters (fixed-rate or adjustable)
- A tap timer (optional, for automation)
- A pressure regulator and filter
- Fittings, joiners, and end caps

03 Method

1. Plan the layout, running main lines along beds with emitters positioned at each plant.
2. Fit a pressure regulator and filter at the tap to protect the system and prevent clogging.
3. Lay out poly pipe or drip tape along the bed, securing with pegs.
4. Punch in emitters at each plant's root zone.
5. Test the system for even flow and adjust emitters as needed; add a timer for automated watering.

04 Troubleshooting

- **Uneven watering along the line** — check pressure is adequate and consistent; very long runs may need a pressure regulator or split into zones.
- **Emitters clogging** — fit a filter at the tap and flush lines periodically.
- **Water pooling instead of soaking in** — reduce flow rate or run time; increase mulch to help absorption.
- **Plants not getting enough water** — check emitter placement is actually at the root zone as plants grow and spread.

05 Timing & maintenance

BEST TIME	Install at the start of the growing season, before plants are established.
DURATION	A basic bed setup can be completed in a few hours; larger systems take a day or more.
MAINTENANCE	Flush lines and check emitters a few times a season; adjust as plants grow.
SIGNS OF SUCCESS	Even, consistent soil moisture at the root zone without surface runoff or dry patches.

06 Tips & variations

PAIRS WELL WITH

[Rainwater Harvesting & Tank Sizing](#)

[Mulching](#)

COMMON MISTAKES

[Skipping the filter, leading to clogged emitters](#)

[Not adjusting emitter placement as plants grow and root zones shift](#)

PRO TIP

Combine drip irrigation with a layer of mulch on top — it further reduces evaporation and lets you water less frequently.