

AEROPONICS:

a different form of hydroponic



Aeroponics is a subset of hydroponics, a soil-less growing system.

Aeroponics vs Hydroponics

There is a rising trend towards more sustainable, ecologically friendly, and healthy growing methods. Two of the hot topics out there are *aeroponics* and *hydroponics*, but you may be wondering just what the difference is between them. To be succinct, hydroponics is a method of growing plants without soil, and aeroponics is a type of hydroponics.

Hydroponics generally have plants situated in a growing medium (like sand, pebbles, or coconut husks) with the roots trailing into nutrient-enriched water. Aeroponics have the roots of a plant facing into a tube and the roots are sprayed with nutrient-enriched water as needed.



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Aeroponics

With aeroponics, plants are grown in vertical towers that are hollow on the inside. They are designed to better use the vertical space in your growing area. Rooftop gardens are flourishing all over the country as fresh food restaurants use these towers to keep supplies of fresh herbs and produce on the tables. The aeroponic tower stores gallons of nutrient-rich water that sprays the roots of the plants. One tower can hold 50 plants at a time, making them much more space efficient than traditional growing methods.

Ready For a Bigger Challenge? Try Aquaponics

Aquaponics is for the very adventurous. This is the combination of growing fish in a tank, and using the water from the tank to provide the nutrients and water for the vegetables.

Although not for the novice, it's an amazing symbiotic growing method - and you can always have fresh fish with your evening salad.



Don't Miss Out

The greenhouse you see displayed at the Landscape Arboretum's spring show could be yours! It is discounted for this show only, and could be the chance for Conservatory Craftsmen to help you to start your own aeroponic garden!



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