



INFO GUIDE #3

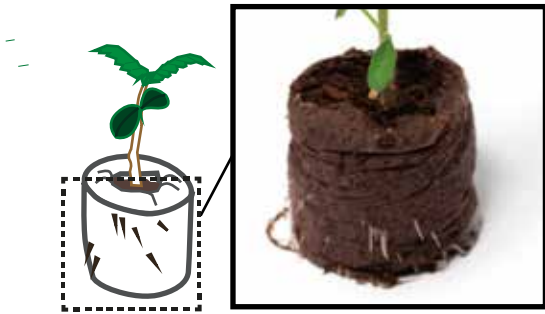
Prepping Cannabis Plants for the Pre-Vegetative Stage

By now, your cannabis seedlings should be fully sprouted. If they have roots, have stretched, or have multiple sets of "true leaves", they are ready to begin the pre-vegetative growing stage.

Step #1: Examine Your Seedlings

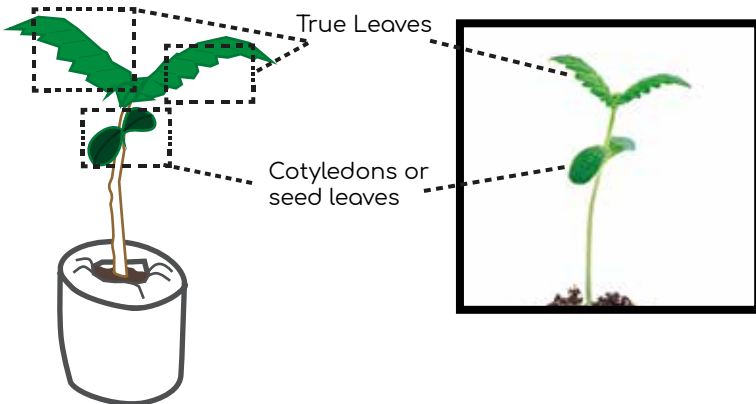
Rooted Seedlings

If roots are exiting your seedling's jiffy pellet, they are ready to be transplanted. Root expansion is a sign of good things to come. However, this also means that your plants will require more water and nutrients over the coming weeks.



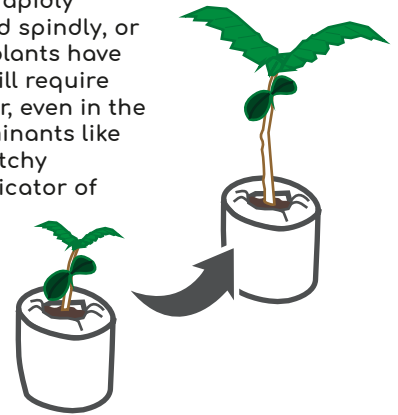
Seedlings with "True-Leaves"

Roots may not always exit a jiffy pellet during the germination stage. So, growers must also examine the leaf structure of their plants. For example, the presence of "true leaves" is a good indicator of plant vitality and growth.



Stretched Seedlings:


Some seedlings tend to rapidly stretch. Sometimes called spindly, or "leggy" seedlings, these plants have soft, tender stalks and will require some extra care. However, even in the absence of other determinants like true leaves or roots, stretchy seedlings are a solid indicator of plant growth.



Step #2: Obtain Containers and Potting Soil

A small pot will encourage steady, realistic growth during the pre-vegetative stage. Seedlings also have a small, unestablished root zone. So, by transplanting them into a smaller container, growers can avoid all the expected issues that come with overwatering small plants in large pots.

For first-time growers, soils are the most predictable and simplest system to manage



Pre-Vegetative Containers Should Be:

- Soft or hard plastic.
- 6" - 8" in diameter.
- A volume of >1 gallon.
- Fitted with side and bottom drainage holes.

High-Quality Potting Soil Should Be:

- A combination of peat moss, perlite/vermiculite, and organic material.
- pH stabilized with dolomite lime, oyster shell flour, or calcium sulfate.
- Formulated with beneficial bacteria, fungi, or organic elements.
- Highly porous.

For first-time growers, high-quality potting soil is a must. Soil-based mediums like peat moss are extremely porous - this means they absorb water and drain easily. And unlike hydroponic mediums, soil can easily be enriched with an array of organic, mineral, or mix-method nutrient programs.



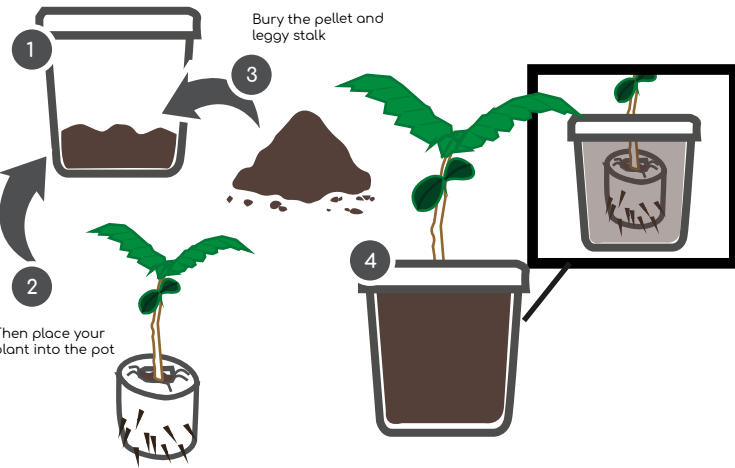
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Step #3: Transplant Seedlings into Containers

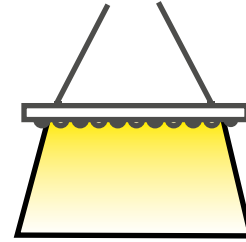
If you've examined your seedlings and obtained containers and potting soil, it's time to transplant your plants into their pre-vegetative homes. Take each container and fill them with a small amount of potting soil, approximately 1/3 of the total volume of the pot. Then, place the jiffy pellet into the pot and fill the surrounding area with soil.

Put 1/3 of your soil into the pot



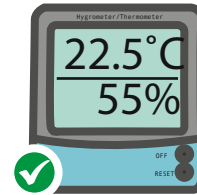
Bury the pellet and leggy stalk

Then place your plant into the pot



Lighting:

Fluorescent, LED, or HID lighting will be suitable for the pre-vegetative stage. Just be sure these lights are at an aqueduct range away from the plant canopy to avoid damage or further stretching. Set your plants under your light of choice and install an indoor lighting timer with a photoperiod of 18 hours of light and 6 hours of darkness.



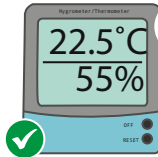
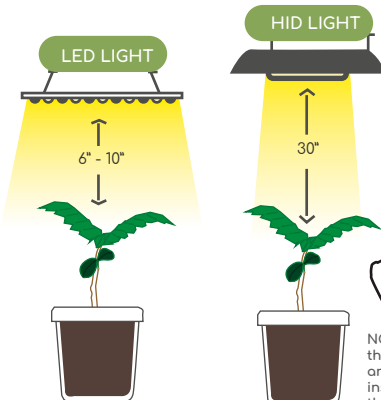
Environment:

For the best outcome, attempt to keep your seedlings in an environmental range of 70-75 degrees Fahrenheit (21-24C) and a minimum of 50-60% relative humidity. Digital thermometers/hygrometers can help manage these environmental ranges. Misting your plants is also a good solution for increasing humidity during this stage.

Step #4: Establish a Pre-Vegetative Environment and Feeding Schedule

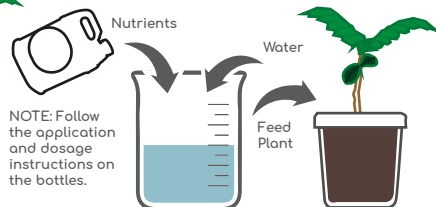
Just like the germination stage, plants have specific needs during the pre-vegetative phase of growth. Here are some of the most important pre-vegetative parameters to put in place:

1 Choose the lights for your grow and ensure they're at ideal range



2 For the best outcome, attempt to keep your seedlings in an environmental range of 70-75 degrees

3 Use some plant nutrients that give your plants an array of micro and macro-nutrients.



NOTE: Follow the application and dosage instructions on the bottles.



Cannabis Nutrients:

As roots expand from your seedlings, the need for plant food will increase. This transition period from germination to pre-vegetative is a great time to begin a scheduled feeding program. "Base Nutrients", or nutrients that give your plants an array of micro and macronutrients, root building supplements, plant hormones, and vitamins are all recommended for the production of top-tier cannabis.



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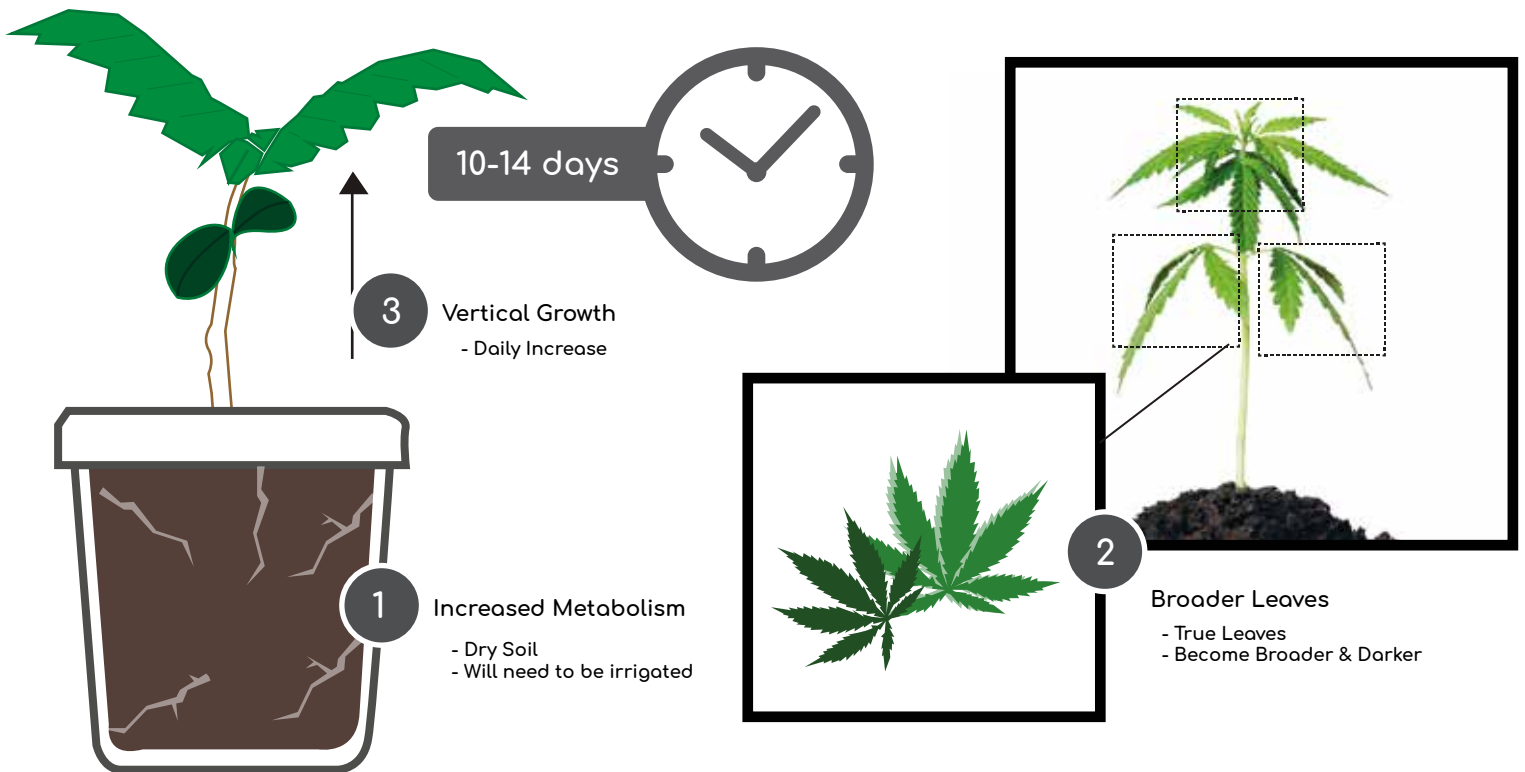
Step #5: Monitor Your Pre-Vegging Plants

Expect your plants to be in the pre-vegetative stage for approximately 10-14 days. Here are some of the positive things to look out for during this phase:

- 1.) Increased Metabolism: You'll notice that the soil dries out quicker and your plants need to be irrigated more often.
- 2.) Broader Leaves: Soon the true leaves of your plant will become broader, darker, softer, and more in number.
- 3.) Vertical Growth: Expect a daily increase in plant height.

If you notice the development of these characteristics over the next few weeks, your plants have likely established a root zone in their new, pre-vegetative homes and soon you'll be able to change protocols and enter the stage of fast, aggressive growth.

Healthy growth will look like:



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