

# What do I need?

1 packet of mixed native  
wildflower seeds\*

5 handfuls of peat-free compost

3 handfuls of powdered clay\*\*

Water

Mixing bowl

\*Can be purchased online from reputable seed companies or collected from the garden.

\*\*Can be found in most craft shops and online. Clay soil could be used instead.



## homemade wildflower bombs

### What do I do?

Take a look at page 2 to find out which are the best native wildflower seeds to use in your seed bomb.

Tip your packet of seeds into your mixing bowl. Add your compost and clay powder and mix the ingredients together.

Make a well in the centre and pour in a small amount of water. Mix together with your hands until the mixture forms a sticky dough. You can add more water if you need to but if you start with too much you'll end up with a compost soup!

Using the palms of your hands, roll the compost dough into firm balls about 3-5cm in size.

Leave the balls to dry in a sunny spot such as a south-facing windowsill.

Now for the fun part! Plant your wildflower seed bombs by throwing them onto bare patches of soil in your garden. Give your seed bombs a good drink of water so that the seeds can germinate.

Make sure you water your seeds regularly for the first 3-4 weeks, or until established.

Your wildflowers should be in full bloom in a year's time, when you can use the information on page 2 or a gardening book to help you identify them.

Native wildflowers are perfect for pollinating insects. See how many different pollinators your wildflower patches attract in your garden!



# British wildflowers

## RED CLOVER

Red clover (*Trifolium pratense*) can be found widespread in most grassland areas including garden lawns. They are helpful plants that can help enrich soils. Their flowers are rich in nectar, so are a favourite among the common carder bee, the red-tailed bumblebee and the honeybee.



## COMMON KNAPWEED

Common knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*) are thistle-like plants found on grasslands and verges. They are known for being a favourite of butterflies, including meadow browns, common blues and marbled whites. Sometimes they can be seen covered in butterflies!



## WILD CLARY

Wild clary (*Salvia verbenaca*) are plants with delicate violet flowers which love to grow in well drained soil in sunny spots, often on grasslands or stable sand dunes in the south of Britain. They are self pollinating but still attract a variety of bee species and other pollinating insects.



## BORAGE

Borage (*Borago officinalis*), also known as 'starflowers', are medical herbs with edible leaves and flowers. Many bee species, including bumblebees and honeybees feed from these plants. They grow best in well draining soil in south-facing positions.

## CORNFLOWER

Cornflowers (*Centaurea cyanus*) are easy-to-grow, beautiful blue wildflowers which like to grow in well draining soil in full sun. They get their name from growing in cornfields. They flower from June to September.

## CORNCOCKLE

Corncockles (*Agrostemma githago*) are plants with delicate magenta-purple flowers which tend to appear in farmland throughout the summer months. In the past, farmers saw them as a weeds and they have since become virtually extinct. By planting corncockles you are helping to increase their numbers.



## MUSK MALLOW

Musk mallows (*Malva moschata*) are plants with lovely pink-purple flowers which favour dry areas such as grasslands, roadside verges and hedgerows. In Victorian times, these flowers were symbolic of love, persuasion and weakness.



## COMMON POPPY

Common poppies (*Papaver rhoeas*) are classic British wildflowers which are often found growing in wasteland and farmland. They are known as the Flanders poppy because they poignantly grew over the graves of the hundred of thousands of fallen soldiers buried in Flanders Fields in Belgium during the First World War. They have been a symbol of remembrance ever since.



## RAGGED ROBIN

Ragged robins (*Lychnis flos-cuculi*) are full of character, found in wet woodlands and grasslands during May and June. Their flowers are featured in Shakespeare's 'Hamlet', as they are placed in Ophelia's flower garland. In Elizabethan times, ragged robin would have been known as 'crowflowers'.



## FIELD SCABIOUS

Field scabious' (*Knautia arvensis*) are plants with dainty lilac flowers often found in late summer in grasslands. They flower for a much longer period of time compared to other wildflowers, so provide insects with a valuable source of nectar when most of their food source has died off.



# Moroccan herb garden seed bomb



If you grow fruits and vegetables, it's really important to encourage pollinators into your gardens to help pollinate them. Why not make a Moroccan herb garden seed bomb to attract wildlife into your garden and to add some flavour to your cooking at the same time? Here are some ideas for seeds you could include.

الخزامة Moroccan lavender  
(*Lavandula pedunculata* subsp. *atlantica*)

النعناع Moroccan mint  
(*Mentha spicata* var. *spicata*)

كزبرة Coriander  
(*Coriandrum sativum*)

اللويظة Vervain  
(*Verbena officinalis*)

زعيترة Moroccan thyme  
(*Thymus satureioides*)

البسباس Fennel  
(*Foeniculum vulgare*)

الزعتار Moroccan oregano  
(*Origanum compactum*)



\*Please note that the plants have been written with their Moroccan-Arabic names followed by the English common name and Botanical Latin name.