



# LOOK! I made a SEED BOMB!



## Seed Bombs: What They Are & How to Make Them

Seed bombs are little clay-covered mounds of seeds and growing soil. They're often used to help reseed natural plants to wild areas, and they were first made popular by guerilla gardeners, people who use public space to grow things. Seed Bombing gained popularity and was revived in in the 1970's with the help of Japanese natural farming pioneer Masanobu Fukuoka. It was also said that Native Americans would use clay to protect their seeds!

## The Joys of Seed Bombing

Wildflowers and plants are so important for bees, pollinators, and our entire ecosystem. While you can direct sow seed, seed bombs make things even simpler (and increase your odds for success): toss a seed bomb into a wild patch (make might want to you put out a sign so it doesn't get mowed or sprayed!) or even a flower bed or the side of a road.

You can buy seed bombs, or you can make them yourself. Store for a long time in a cool, dry place and are easy to make; you just need three ingredients! Clay, Soil & Seeds!

The clay in the seed bombs keeps birds, animals, and wind from making off with the seeds, and the soil gives them a bit of a head start. Just toss them out before a heavy rain in the spring, and watch flowers begin to sprout a few days later. The best time to get out there and start slinging your wildflower bombs is in the spring. Check your local weather and try to get them out just ahead of some rain and choose a sunny spot. That will give them the best chance of growing. If there's no rain coming, maybe add some water. Plant your seed balls anywhere in need of some beauty and color. Hopefully, in a few weeks, you'll have the beginning of a beautiful patch of your own native wildflowers! ENJOY!



## HOW to make a seed BOMB:

Mix together about 4 parts clay to 1 part potting soil. You don't have to be exact, but you want more clay (*can use potters clay, or cat litter clay with no added chemicals*) than soil so the bombs hold tightly together. Add your wildflower seeds to the clay mixture (we also add milkweed seeds). Be sure to only use seeds that are native to your area and not invasive.

Add a little bit of water at a time and squish with your hands until everything is mixed and about the consistency of thick cookie dough. It should work into your hand like play-dough.

Once everything is well mixed, roll the clay into balls about the size of a golf ball. Set them on a tray or paper and let them dry completely until hardened. This may take a couple hours or a couple of days, depending on the humidity levels &/or the temperature of when you made them.

**BOMBS AWAY!!!** Use them as seed bombs or... Once dry, package your seed bombs in small envelopes or bags to gift to friends, neighbors, teachers, or family members. They'd make great gifts for Earth Day, Mother's Day, Valentine's Day, Christmas, Teacher Appreciation, or just because.

