



HOMEMADE SEED BALLS

What you will need:

5 parts	Clay
3 parts	Potting soil or compost
2 parts	Water
1 parts	Seeds (your choice)
1	Mixing bowl
1	Soil sifter (colander)
1	Measuring device (cup, teaspoon, etc.)
1	Cultivator/soil mixer

Directions:

1. Sift clay to remove rocks, twigs, leaves, debris, etc.
2. Add all dry ingredients including seeds into the mixing bowl.
3. Ensure all clumps are broken up and mix well.
4. Add water and mix thoroughly. The mixture should be moist, but not sticky. The mixture should hold a ball shape but not fall apart readily.
5. If more water is needed add small amounts at a time until the desired consistency is obtained.
6. Once the mixture is at the right consistency then have the students begin making balls. Balls should be about the size of a ping pong ball.
7. Place completed balls on recycled newspaper to dry. Drying times will depend on the time of year and temperature and humidity. Typically, they should dry in three to four days.
8. Once dry, throw seed balls in areas that are bare or areas suffering from high erosion.

TIPS:

- A fun way to store and give seed balls away is to use empty egg cartons.
- Clay can be purchased in the arts and crafts section of some stores, but the most economical way of obtaining clay is to identify an area that has a water pond on it for extended periods of time. This soil is sticky and slippery when wet. When dry this soil may be very powdery and makes dust when the wind blows.
- Seed varieties can vary by geographic location. We at Navajo Technical University use morning glory, sunflower, oats, barley, and corn mixture. We perform seed balls at different times of the year so by adding oats and barley they will germinate during cooler growing seasons.