

2015

Capillary wick irrigation for a pot from a reservoir

David A Bainbridge

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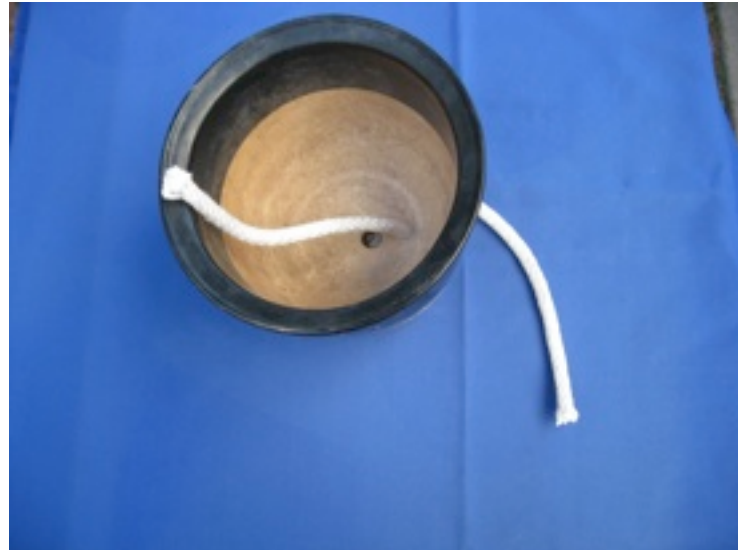
Who doesn't love a container or pot full of healthy herbs, flowers or shrubs. But keeping them green and healthy can be a challenge for busy people.

Adding a reservoir and wicks to a container can reduce water use and improve plant health.

Start by obtaining the basic materials - a decorative pot or container, reservoir and wick material.

I prefer 1/2" nylon solid braid rope but polyester and other fiber tapes and ropes will also work. Wash with detergent or soap before use.

Test wick material by hanging it into a bottle or pot with water colored with a bit of food coloring. The water should rise rapidly up the wick. Try some wick races!



Thread wick through hole in pot



Add soil and curl wick at depth of the roots in the plants you will be using



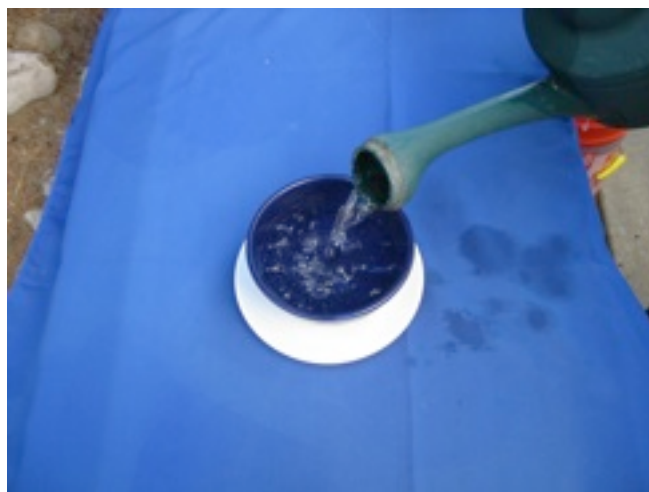
Wick races



Free up any bound roots



Plant your flower or herb



Fill reservoir



Place wick in reservoir.
Water once from above to
wet soil



Refill reservoir as needed.
Enjoy!

For more information on wicks and super efficient irrigation look for my book
Gardening with Less Water, 2015. Storey Press.

And review other free resources at:
http://works.bepress.com/david_a_bainbridge
Please tell your friends and colleagues.

Suppliers

Polyester rope – West Marine and others.

Solid braid nylon rope – available from many sources but make sure it is nylon or polyester
not a nylon/polypropylene blend.

Gulf Rope Pistachio wicking rope <http://gulfrope.com/agriculturehorticulture.html>