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## Planning the Perfect Home Garden

Gardens add color and life to our homes. As spring rain falls and misty dreams of summertime feasts begin to emerge, many of us begin to imagine cottage gardens, lush rows of vegetables, or lovely hanging flower pots bringing a lively splash of color to our homes. Not everyone is born with a green thumb though, so here are some tips to make sure your garden is one of the high points of your neighborhood.

**Plan Ahead.** The first step to a successful garden is deciding what exactly you want to grow. Whether you're interested in crisp veggies, fresh fruit, or aromatic herbs, putting together a game plan is a great way to ensure you get the most out of your garden. Also remember to take into account how much space you have to allocate to planting, and how much time you're ready to commit – remember gardens need TLC as much as they need sunshine and water!

**Choose the right plants for your climate.** This may seem pretty obvious, but you would be surprised by how many people have ruined their gardens by selecting the wrong plants. Lemons, for example, will never grow in the high desert, and it's very rare to find corn in the wetlands of Florida. Ask at your local nursery or check out online resources (local government sites often have great gardening info) to make sure you create a rewarding, productive garden.

**Share with others.** If you've done any gardening in the past, or have read any seed catalogs, you know that a typical packet of seeds has more than you need. Splitting seeds with friends and neighbors is a fun and cost-effective way to help defray the cost of setting up your garden. You can also share equipment and pick up tips from other gardeners in your area. And don't forget, vegetables and flowers from your garden make great gifts!

Read the full article by visiting:

<http://www.2-10.com/blog/five-tips-for-planning-your-home-garden/>

## Persian-Style Tomato Avocado Salad

### Ingredients

- 4 ripe tomatoes, diced
- 2 avocados, diced
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 3 tablespoons chopped red onion
- 6 sprigs cilantro, chopped
- 2 tablespoons fresh lime juice
- Salt and ground black pepper to taste
- 1 lime, sliced into thin rounds

### Instructions

1. Combine the tomatoes, avocados, garlic, onion, and cilantro in a large bowl. Sprinkle with lime juice, and season with salt and pepper. Gently mix by hand
2. Garnish salad with thin lime slices before serving.

Recipe courtesy of [allrecipes.com](http://allrecipes.com)



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