

Be sure your plans include a work space where potting and other duties can be completed easily. Traditionally known as the "potting bench," the area should consist of a storage rack for tools, shelves for pots, containers for soil mixes, soil amendments (such as bone meal, lime, and fertilizer), and a sink with running water.

Here are some ways to get the most from your indoor garden space--whether it be skylight, pit greenhouse, or another variety:

Because sun is all important, increase the amount of sunlight available by placing reflective material where it will toss light back onto plants. Some growers construct movable mirrors that adjust to the sun's movement across the sky. Movable screens painted flat white can go a long way toward increasing light intensity.

Before winter sets in, check your landscape plantings, and prune back those shrubs or trees blocking the sun.

Construct planter boxes for starting seeds of vegetables and annual flowers.

Put sun-loving plants on portable stands or trays that can be shifted for maximum exposure to the sun.

Use shelves made from clear acrylic plastic, glass, or wire mesh. This way plants can grow in the middle of the window as well as around the sides.