



step #5: decorate your trash with trash!

pick up beloved rocks! pick up shiny bits! pick up shells from the beach, or from the sidewalks at Lake Merritt where the seagulls drop them to eat the shell creatures! pick up seed pods that you like a lot. decorate your dirt with beloved items



### Trash gardens rule!



because if the plants die, it's ok - they're trash!

it's a way of observing the plants in your area & learning to see the different kinds & the ways they grow differently in different conditions.

it's easy to make plant gifts for friends!

it's a hobby that housemates like!

ignore the world while fussing with jars & dirt!

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### Step #4: Cheap pots!

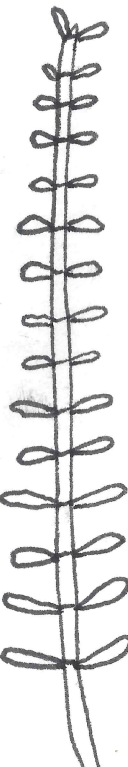
\* Reuse glass jars! Check your cabinets & fridge at home, work, makerspace, etc, for old/expired stuff, compost it, and scrub off labels.

\* Reuse metals: cans & tins!

\* Community Thrift on Valencia is the best for weird glass & ceramic containers of all kinds. (it also has cool queer history - Tavern Guild)

\* Make a Craigslist alert for garage/estate sales nearby, close enough to carry stuff home. Ask at the sale if they have more plant pots to bring out!

## Principles of San Francisco Mission Trash Gardening



Britta Gustafson

### Step 3: dirt?

Get cheap garden soil from grocery outlet or the closest place to your apartment since you don't have a car to carry it.

Flowercraft is really nice, just over the hill, but Lowe's has cheap perlite (like the white specks). Good to add to cheap dirt for drainage, easy to carry on a bus because it's light.


You can wear your mask when mining your wildfire roots. That's ok!

## A trash garden is an escapist hobby that is super cheap and very fun.

### Step 1: don't buy plants

I live in the Mission, where there are tons of succulents along sidewalks. (More suburban or fancy or foggy places might not have so much joy.)

If you're here, try:  
Balmy Alley  
Harrison St  
Alabama & 14th  
Folsom up to Bernal



### How to plant jade pieces!

- let end dry if it's not already - put in dirt. - water once or twice a week. - get wrinkly while it grows! it will wait a few weeks! - medium light (not full sun).

Trash plants are often dusty, might have dog pee on them, might have aphids, etc., so rinse them with cool water. (Maybe also wash the sink to be nice to all of your housemates.)

### Look for dropped pieces!

\* Bring a plastic bag everywhere for your finds! Grocery outlet bags are perfect.

\* Jade plants drop a lot of pieces - look underneath (YAY)

\* Ask friends if you can take cuttings from:

- succulents
- spider plant babies
- vine-looking plants
- geraniums

don't snap off pieces without asking! that's not as much fun as gathering trash!

The All in Common garden at 23rd & Seward gives away plants.