



## How to Make Wildflower Seed Balls- Two Ways



No clay, no worries!  
You can also use 1  
part flour to 5 parts  
soil.

Seed balls are an excellent way to disperse wildflower seeds in challenging growing conditions. Rather than scattering the seeds, you can launch your ball into an unused lot, by a roadside, or anywhere that would otherwise be hard to reach or cultivate. The seeds are enclosed in a nourishing mix of clay and soil, which protects them and gives them a successful start at life. Then you can let nature do the rest of the work, returning habitat to the insects and birds, and turning vacant lots to vibrant ones!

Seed balls require the following:

### Clay

- ❖ This give the balls structure, protects the seeds from the elements and birds, and helps to retain moisture.

### Soil or compost

- ❖ This gives seeds nutrients for growth.

### Seeds

- ❖ Wildflower seed mixes support pollinators and birds. Choose seeds for your region and either full or partial sun conditions, depending on your planting site. Sunflower seeds are also known to work well in seed balls; just use a couple per ball and make sure they are inside the ball. Annuals should be planted in spring after danger of frost. Perennials will flower the next year and should be planted in spring or summer.



There are two tried and tested ways to make seed balls: the “multi-layered” method or the “cake mix” method. Both ways work well, but one uses clay powder and the other fresh clay, so choose according to what you have on hand.

### The ‘Cake Mix’ Method:

#### Materials:

3 parts dry clay powder (red clay is best)

2 parts soil or compost

1 part water

½ part seeds

#### Optional:

1 part straw bits or finely shredded paper (to add strength)



#### Process:

- 1) Mix the clay and soil together in a bowl. If using straw or paper add that as well.
- 2) Mix in seeds.
- 3) Slowly add water, continuing to mix until it becomes a well-blended paste. If it becomes too wet, add more compost or soil.
- 4) Shape into ping-pong size balls.
- 5) Let dry 24- 48 hrs. before launching and let mother nature do the rest!

## The “Multi-Layered” Method:

### Materials:

Block of air dry clay

Soil or compost

Seeds

Water

### Process:

- 1) Cut a piece of clay and work in hands to flatten into a circle about ½ inch thick and 2 inches across.
- 2) Sprinkle soil or compost with a spoon until the top of the clay is covered with a good layer.
- 3) Sprinkle a few seeds onto the soil.
- 4) Spray some water onto the soil, but don't let it get too water logged.
- 5) Gently cup the the edges of the clay in toward the center until the edges meet. Try not to spill the inner layer of soil. Once the contents are enclosed, roll it around in the hands until it forms a ball.
- 6) Roll the ball into one last layer of soil.
- 7) Let dry 24- 48 hrs. before launching and let mother nature do the rest!



Or put seed balls in a paper bag or decorated egg carton and share as a gift!