

Eggshell Garden Use Guide

Eggshells, often discarded in the kitchen, can become valuable tools in the garden. They deter pests, enrich the soil, and even serve as seed starters. This guide outlines simple ways to prepare and use eggshells in your fall garden, along with a reflection prompt to connect the practice with faith and stewardship.

Preparing Eggshells for Garden Use

- Rinse shells after cracking to remove residue.
- Air dry or bake at 200°F for 10 minutes to kill bacteria.
- Store dried shells in a jar until ready to use.
- Crush into coarse pieces for pest deterrent, or grind into fine powder for soil amendment.

Using Eggshells as Pest Deterrents

- Sprinkle coarse, crushed shells in a ring around young plants.
- Reapply after rain or heavy watering.
- Focus on crops prone to slug and snail damage—lettuce, kale, chard, spinach.
- Combine with mulch, row covers, or hand-picking for stronger protection.

Using Eggshells for Soil Enrichment

- Grind shells into fine powder and work into the topsoil for calcium enrichment.
- Add to compost pile for slow-release nutrients.
- Mix with potting soil for container plants prone to calcium deficiency (e.g., tomatoes).

Creative Garden Uses

- Use half shells as mini seed starters; transplant shell and all.
- Scatter crushed shells in pathways for added grit and weed suppression.
- Blend shells with coffee grounds for a balanced soil amendment.



Reflection

Eggshells remind us that even fragile, broken things can be redeemed for purpose. In the garden, as in life, nothing is wasted when placed in God's hands.

Journal Prompt

Where in my life am I overlooking small, ordinary things that could become sources of nourishment or protection if I used them differently?

