

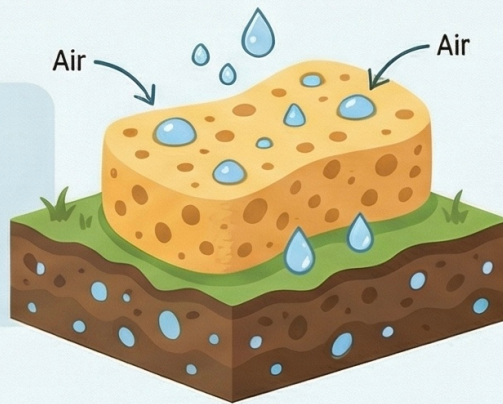
# The Secret to a Healthy Garden: Understanding Soil Porosity

Soil porosity refers to the network of interconnected spaces within the soil that hold essential air and water. Good porosity is vital for healthy plant roots and drainage, but it can be destroyed by soil compaction. This infographic outlines the problem of poor porosity and offers simple, effective solutions to fix it.

## The Problem: Poor Soil Porosity

### What is Soil Porosity? Think of a Sponge.

It's the measure of interconnected empty spaces in soil that hold air and water.



### Why Porosity is Vital for a Thriving Garden



It allows rain to drain.



Healthy roots to grow.



and provides a healthy balance of air and water.

### The #1 Enemy: Soil Compaction



Walking on or cultivating wet soil squeezes out air spaces, making it impervious.

## The Solution: How to Boost Porosity

### Add Organic Matter

Spread compost or manure on the soil surface; worms will work it in for you.



### Let Nature's Tillers Do the Work

Worms and decaying plant roots create deep channels, naturally improving drainage and porosity.



### What to Do vs. What to Avoid



#### Best Practice (DO)



Add compost & let worms work it in.



Cut stems & leave non-invasive roots.



Use boards to spread weight if needed.



#### Common Mistake (AVOID)



Walking on or cultivating wet soil.



Adding small amounts of sand to clay.



Compacting soil with heavy machinery.