

BASIC ALLOTMENT TOOLS THAT YOU WILL NEED

Try to buy the best you can afford. Quality second-hand tools are often a good buy!



FORK

- make sure the fork is the right size for your height and is comfortable to use. Buy the best quality that you can afford.

SPADE

- buy a good quality spade that is comfortable for you to lift when fully loaded.



RAKE

- for preparing and levelling your planting beds and breaking up the soil (to a fine tilth) for seeds and plants



HOE

- there are different shapes of hoe - Dutch, Stirrup etc - you will need one to till your planting beds and to help keep the weeds down in the growing season



SECATEURS FOR PRUNING



HAND TROWEL FOR PLANTING

ONCE YOU GET STARTED, YOU WILL ALSO NEED:

- ✓ A watering can (preferably two!)
- ✓ A good selection of plant pots and seed trays
- ✓ Garden canes to support plants and to build protection for seedlings etc
- ✓ Netting to protect plants from pests, birds etc
- ✓ A shovel for moving manure or chippings
- ✓ A good range of small hand tools (small hand fork, hand hoes, dibber etc)
- ✓ Good quality garden twine/plant ties
- ✓ A hose pipe
- ✓ Horticultural fleece to protect crops against cold weather/frost
- ✓ Tarpaulins for covering parts of the plot temporarily not in cultivation, for example over winter, or for covering parts of the plot during initial clearing.
- ✓ Mypex - or similar weed suppressant lining - if you intend to lay wood chipping paths on your plot

Shannon's Garden Centre on Stanstead Road, Forest Hill SE23, has a good selection of gardening tools.

Spear and Jackson and Bulldog are reasonably priced brands to look out for.

Robert Dyas often have good offers on Wilkinson Sword tools and B&Q and Homebase also have garden departments with tool departments.

Second hand tools are often available on ebay or at car boot sales, and often outperform their contemporary equivalents.

If you want to treat yourself to some of the best gardening tools that are on sale today, the Dutch companies Sneeboer and DeWit are well worth looking at.

Wheelbarrows are provided for use on the Longton Nursery site.