**WE ANSWER COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT GROWING IN A TENT**

**WHY GROW IN A TENT?**

Grow tents give gardeners a controlled and environment which has several advantages:

* A tent can eliminate light leaks, reduce noise from [fans](https://everythingbuttheplant.com/blogs/blog/how-to-cool-a-grow-tent), contain odour, and protect against fungi, bacteria, insects, and other pests.
* Grow tents have support bars for lights, fans, and filters with exhaust, ventilation and cable openings. Just a case of setting up your tent, sorting out the equipment and you’re ready to grow. No DIY needed.
* Grow tents allow you to grow year-round, and to have plants in different stages of growth. Some tents are made specifically for propagation purposes.
* Boosts photosynthesis: The reflective Mylar interior ensures your plants get high-quality light from every angle.

**WHAT SIZE GROW TENT?**

What plants and how you grow them determines the size of your tent. Tents must accommodate all of your equipment: fans, lights, reflectors, filters, cables, ballasts, possibly a reservoir, AC unit and more. Take this into account along with the number of plants you intend to grow.  
Remember that plants put into bloom will grow taller so your tent must provide sufficient distance between them the heat of the lights. A free-standing tent will need lots of ground and overhead space.

**THE STRUCTURE OF YOUR GROW TENT**

The tent canvas is hung over a frame made of metal or plastic poles. Metal can bear more weight, but plastic is less expensive. The manufacturer will advise how much weight the frame can support. Factor this into your decision based on your growing method and equipment. Generally, the larger the tent, the more access points.

**WHERE DO I PUT MY TENT?**

Your tent will need a dedicated location for a few months. Ensure easy access to water and plugs. Because spills happen, do not put the tent on carpet or hardwood floors.

**HOW CLOSE TO THE LIGHT CAN I PLACE MY PLANTS?**

This depends on:

* What light you use: LED, HID (HPS or MH) or CFL. Remember, HID lights need good ventilation.
* How strong your light is (in terms of watts).
* Your coverage area.

Lights should cover the full area of your tent and penetrate the canopy to the lower parts of your plants. Plants will suffer bleaching or burning if too close to the light.

**WHAT’S THE BEST DISTANCE FOR PLANTS FROM HPS or MH LIGHTS?**

The hand test will tell you if your light is too close to your plants: too hot for your hand is too hot for your plants. Simply raise your light until it stops burning your hand.

**A GUIDELINE TO PLANTS AND THE REQUIRED DISTANCE FROM HID LIGHTS:**

400w: 40 - 60cm.

600w: 60 - 80cm.

1000w: 80cm - 100cm.

**WHAT BASIC EQUIPMENT WILL I NEED?**

* A light - consider a reflector, too. Most HID lights require a ballast and an E40 socket.
* [Timer](https://sweetleafmarijuana.com/grow-room-equipment-checklist/" \l "5-timer)s - to control light schedule, fans and more.
* [Oscilating fan](https://sweetleafmarijuana.com/grow-room-equipment-checklist/" \l "6-rotating-oscilating-fan) - air movement is crucial to prevent mildew, control humidity and more.
* [Inline fans and ducting](https://sweetleafmarijuana.com/grow-room-equipment-checklist/" \l "7-inline-fans-ducting) - to remove hot air and have incoming cool air.
* [Carbon filter](https://sweetleafmarijuana.com/grow-room-equipment-checklist/" \l "8-carbon-filterscrubber) - for odour control, if a problem.
* [Thermo-hygrometer](https://sweetleafmarijuana.com/grow-room-equipment-checklist/" \l "9-thermo-hygrometer) - to measure humidity of the air and air temperature.
* [pH meter](https://sweetleafmarijuana.com/grow-room-equipment-checklist/" \l "10-ph-meter) - to check the quality of your water.
* [Spray bottles](https://sweetleafmarijuana.com/grow-room-equipment-checklist/" \l "13-spray-bottles) - for pest control, humidity and more.

This is just a short list of basic requirements. It is not wholly inclusive of every item required. Please see [www.gthydro.co.za](http://www.gthydro.co.za) where you can purchase everything you need for a successful tent grow.