

WATERING TIMES

Turn the water on for 20 to 45 minutes every two to three days. After a week or two, check the soil and the health of the plants then adjust the watering time as needed.

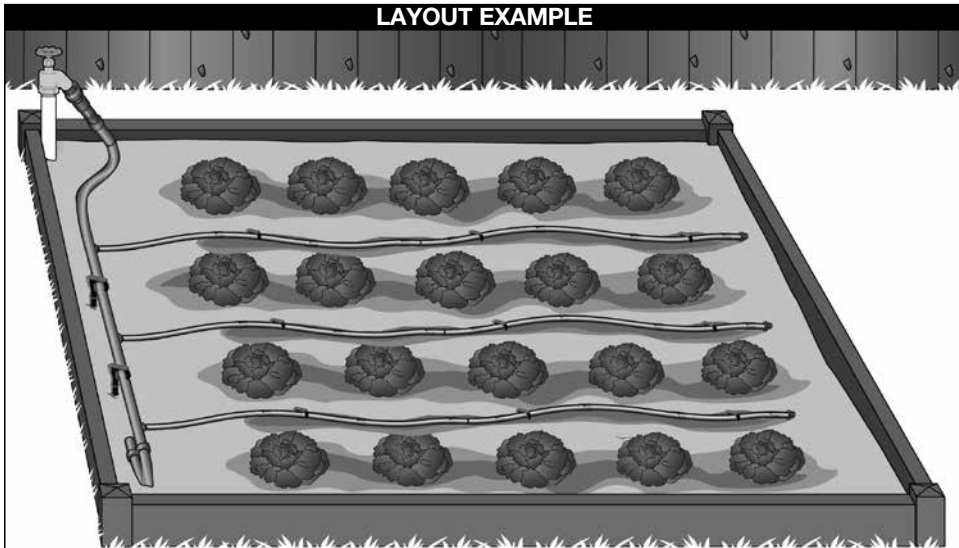
KIT CONTENTS

Qty	Part Description
1	3/4 in. backflow preventer with FHT x MHT
1	3/4 in. FHT preset pressure regulator at 25 PSI
1	3/4 in. FHT swivel adapter with screen
1	50' of 1/2 in. poly tubing with .600 ID x .700 OD
1	50' of 1/4 in. dripline with 9 in. spacing
1	1/2 in. compression coupling
3	1/2 in. compression tee
8	1/2 in. compression elbow
4	1/2 in. tubing holder stakes
15	1/4 in. barbed connectors
10	Goof plugs / 1/4 in. line ends
1	Hole punch
4	Figure "8" hose ends
10	1/4 in. tubing holder stakes

MATERIALS

Dripline: Dow Fingerprint™ DFDA 7510 low-density polyethylene resin. Inline drippers: polyethylene with a silicon diaphragm. Fittings: ABS with polycarbonate inserts. Hose end: polypropylene with 20% glass filled. Stakes: Polypropylene. Pressure regulator and backflow device: ABS.

LAYOUT EXAMPLE



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INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

ML50

Raised Bed Drip Watering Kit



INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing DIG's model ML50 Raised Bed Drip Watering Kit for raised beds or vegetable gardens. Please take the time to read through the enclosed instructions and to follow them step-by-step. If you have any questions, please call our customer service line at 1-800-344-2281. Designed for use in planter boxes, the ML50 Raised Bed Drip Watering Kit is designed to water up to 10 rows of vegetables, maximizing your efficient use of water and having an abundant amount of vegetables throughout the season. If you decide to expand your system, all the necessary parts are available individually.

ABOUT YOUR DRIP IRRIGATION KIT

The ML50 Raised Bed Drip Watering Kit includes all the parts needed for the installation of a drip irrigation system in a raised planter box or a vegetable garden with up to ten rows of vegetables, each up to 5 ft. long. The kit contains 50 ft. of 1/4 in. dripline with .5 GPH @ 15 PSI or .65 GPH @ 25 PSI drippers every 9 inches. The kit also has 50 ft. of 1/2 in. poly tubing with .600 ID x .700 OD, sufficient to start a vegetable garden for up to four planter boxes (see picture). The kit includes all the fittings and accessories needed to install the ten rows.

ABOUT DRIP IRRIGATION

The best method for achieving a healthy and productive vegetable garden is the use of an appropriate irrigation system. During the year with normal rainfall, rain typically wets the soil and provides a good supply of deep soil moisture. What happens later will depend upon the efficiency of your irrigation system. Adequate soil moisture is important for seed germination, uniform growth, and productivity. Correct use of a drip irrigation system should keep vegetable plants actively growing in dry periods yet cause no problem when rain occurs following irrigation. The system, when properly operated, keeps soil at the base of the plant (root zone area) moist. This may require operating the system for short periods two to four times a week during dry weather in order to prevent the soil from becoming completely dry. When installing a drip or low volume irrigation system, please remember that drip systems require clean water and operate at lower pressures than regular sprinkler systems. During the installation, use the pressure regulator provided to ensure that your system will remain trouble-free for years to come.

INSTALLATION METHODS

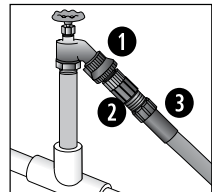
When installing this kit select one of the following two options:

Option 1: If you are planning to install the system before planting, then after you complete the installation, turn the water on and water the soil for 45 minutes to a few hours depending on your soil type. Water movement through the soil is forced by gravity downwards and by capillary action outwards, producing a wetting pattern characteristic of the soil type and the application rate of your dripline, so in clay soil you should water for a shorter time than in sandy soil. After watering, the soil around each dripper will be wet; plant the seed or plant in the center of the wetted area and about 2 in. from the dripper.

Option 2: If installing the system after the plants are planted, install the dripline along each row and close to the plants, making sure that the dripline and the drippers will not touch the plants (to avoid rotting of the plant stems).

INSTALLATION

Begin your installation at the water source by attaching the backflow preventer ① to your faucet and then attach the 25 PSI preset pressure regulator ② to the backflow preventer. Connect the swivel hose adapter ③ to your pressure regulator and insert the poly tubing into the compression fitting about 1/2 in. to 5/8 in. by moving the poly tubing from side to side and applying force into the swivel compression adapter. If you wish to automate the system, you can use a battery operated hose end timer (DIG model number B09D, B092A or a solar powered EVO 100).





Next, lay down the 1/2 in. poly tubing near the planter box. If you plan to leave it above the ground, allow the poly tubing to sit in the sun before installation, making it easier to work with. Use the 1/2 in. stakes to secure the poly tubing into the ground. If preferred, cover the poly tubing with mulch to hide it. This is purely aesthetic and is not necessary. Do not cover the end of the poly tubing; allow it to remain on the surface for periodic flushing.

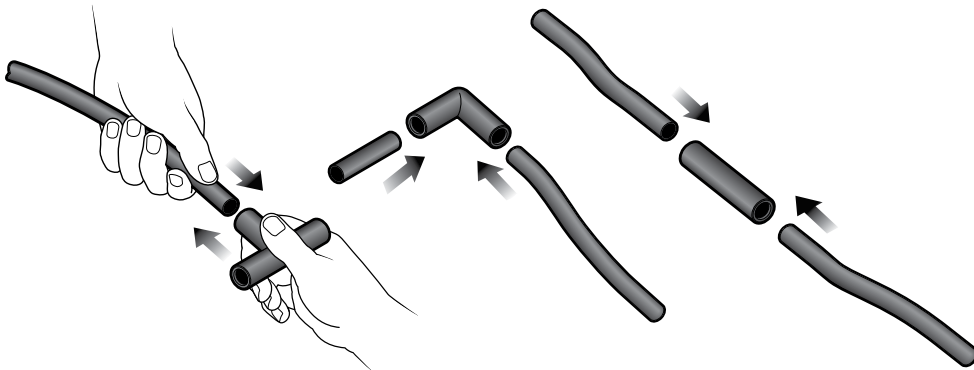
Option one, for planter boxes: Near the planter, connect the 1/2 in. tee and add an additional section of poly tubing to the top of the planter. To the end of the poly tubing add a 1/2 in. elbow as well as another piece of 1/2 in. tubing perpendicular to the vegetable row.

Option two, for vegetable rows: Lay out the poly tubing perpendicular to the vegetable rows. The 1/2 in. poly tubing is used as the main line to deliver the water to the 1/4 in. dripline, assuming you will have a number of parallel rows with the same spacing between the rows. Make sure to extend the 1/2 in. poly tubing an extra foot past the last row.

Dripline layout: Lay out the 1/4 in. dripline near each row of vegetables or between two narrow rows (6 in. - 10 in. apart) and secure the dripline into the ground using a 1/4 in. tubing stake (included). Leave the end of the 1/4 in. dripline open to flush the line as shown in step 4.

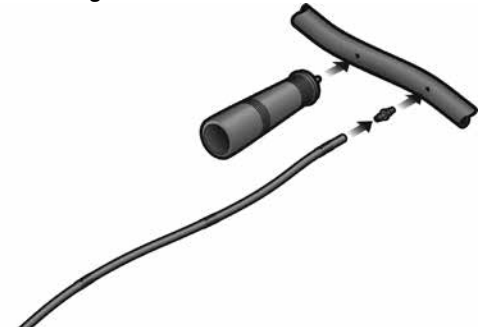
1. Connecting and installing 1/2 in. compression fittings:

To install 1/2 in. compression fittings, cut the poly tubing with a hand pruner, being careful to keep dirt from entering the line. Apply force and push the poly tubing into the compression fitting about 1/2 in. to 5/8 in. while moving it from side to side.



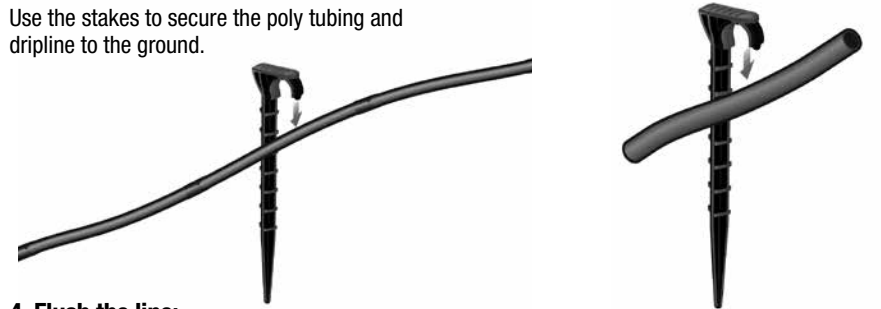
2. Connecting and installing 1/4 in. barb fittings:

To install the 1/4 in. fittings, cut the dripline with a hand pruner, being careful to keep dirt from entering the line. Push the end of the 1/4 in. over the barbed fitting by moving it from side to side as you apply force. Next, punch a hole in the 1/2 in. poly tubing using the punch and insert the open end of the 1/4 in. barbed connector into the hole.



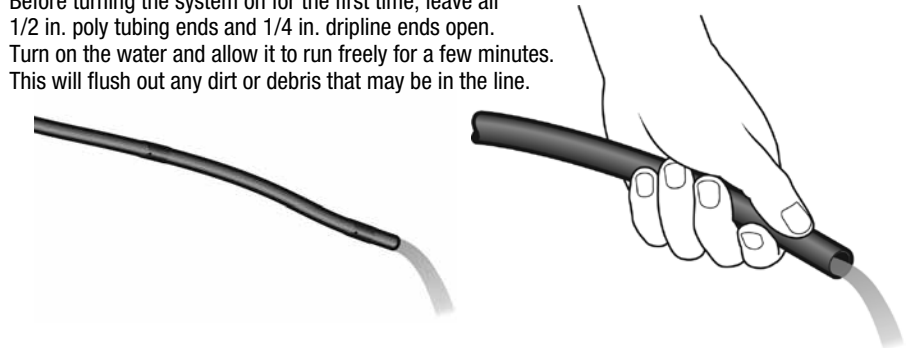
3. Secure the tubing:

Use the stakes to secure the poly tubing and dripline to the ground.



4. Flush the line:

Before turning the system on for the first time, leave all 1/2 in. poly tubing ends and 1/4 in. dripline ends open. Turn on the water and allow it to run freely for a few minutes. This will flush out any dirt or debris that may be in the line.



5. Close the end of the poly tubing and dripline:

Close the end of the 1/2 in. poly tubing by using a "figure 8" hose end and use a goof plug to close off the end of the 1/4 in. dripline. Check to see that the dripline is operating correctly and that no leakage is occurring from the fittings or any of the connections.

