Bucket Drip Irrigation
Bucket Drip Irrigation
• For Flower Crops
• For Vegetable Crops
• Can be constructed in any zone
Water into bucket once or twice a day. This depends on:

- Type of plants
- Soils
- Temperature
- Recent Weather
- Wind
Bucket drip irrigation is simple irrigation:
• Been Used Worldwide
• Not Expensive
• Low Pressure
• Saves Water
• Fertilizer Application

700 pounds of tomatoes from one kit in one year (100 plants)
Chapin Bucket Drip Irrigation Kits
• Filter screen
• Water Supply Line
• Drip Line

Need to add:
• Bucket
• Stand
• Plants
We will look at the steps to build and use a bucket drip

*Remember the basics of irrigation*
The first step is to drill a hole in the bottom of a clean bucket.
• Be sure the filter screen is clean
• You will need to clean it periodically
• Clean by washing it, not by rubbing it with fingers
• Examine the fittings
• Notice how they will be assembled into the bucket
• They must be tight
• Bucket is placed on stand at highest end of garden
• The stand should be at least 1 meter high
The water supply lines go into the rubber stopper
Connect the water supply line to the drip line
• Stretch the drip line across the garden
• Avoid folds or creases
• Do not vary elevation by more than 1 foot
• Drip line should be in contact with the soil
• Weight the drip line down with rocks
• The drip opening should be on top of the line
• Close end of drip line
• Fold over twice and put in sleeve
• Can also tie with string
Carefully pour clean water into the bucket
• Look for wet spots
• Mark them
• Place plants where there is a drip
Notice that the drip should be on top of the drip line
• Plants should go where the drip will be
• Try to avoid getting soil on the drip line
• Can place mulch over line to reduce evaporation loss of water
Plants should be down slope of the drip
Clogging can be a problem.

May need to cover the bucket top to keep dust and sand from blowing to bucket
If hole becomes blocked or the drip becomes slow:
• Do not use a pin to clear the hole
• Rub your finger across the hole and blow into it
Can also flush the lines

This is done by opening the ends of the drip lines and pouring clean water through it.
The Chapin bucket drip irrigation kits should last 5 to 7 years with proper care.
If stored
• Flush clean water thru the opened drip lines.
• Clean the filter screen
• Carefully roll the drip lines
• Do not fold the drip lines
• Can apply fertilizer to the irrigation water.
• The fertilizer will go straight to the plant
• If you are using a compost tea for fertilizer, be sure to pour it through a heavy cloth.
Test Time
What is wrong here?

Answer: line is bent
Test Time
What is wrong here?

Answer: line is not flat
Test Time

What is wrong here?

Hint: this is the inside of the drip bucket.

Answer: water is too dirty. The irrigation water needs to be cleaner. Dirty water can clog the openings.
Questions?