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## PHOTO MEASURES

by KIRSTEN TENNANT

**HAVE YOU EVER** made it all the way to the furniture or hardware store, only to forget the measurements you needed for your project? Now you can avoid all that frustration with the help of a handy app called Photo Measures which lets you record and store all your dimensions for quick and easy reference on your iPhone, iPod Touch or iPad.

Using the app, simply take a photo of the existing space or piece of furniture that you're working with, zoom in for more precise detail, and then input any measurements that you may require when you hit the shops or meet with a contractor.

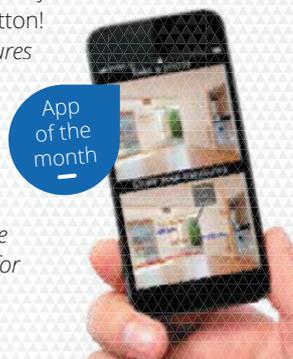
When it comes to making your life that little bit easier, the people behind Photo Measures have thought of everything. You can even export your recorded dimensions to a pdf version, high resolution image, photo album, or straight to your printer, so they're easily accessible to you when you're on the go.

Another great feature of Photo Measures is the ability to organise your documents, and allow for automatic synchronisation via Dropbox between your devices.

It's a great tool to have up your sleeve if you find yourself moving house or undertaking a DIY project. Users of Photo Measures also found the app especially useful if they needed to relay information and measurements to contractors for more detailed advice and quotes.

Once you download and start using Photo Measures, all your measurements are available to you with the click of a button!

*Photo Measures Lite is available for free on the iTunes App store, or you can purchase the full app for \$8.99.*





The new faces of Weeding Women are bringing their kid-friendly feel to Perth's northern suburbs. Their message? Put down the phone and pick up the rake.

## From little things, BIG THINGS GROW



**DIANA AND COURTNEY SMITH** have ditched their army greens for gardening

Their new mission is to transform tired local gardens and help people who are time-poor, elderly or physically unable to maintain their own garden, as the new 'Weeding Women Duncraig'.

The career change, while drastic, was easy for the Smiths, both passionate green thumbs with a strong interest in organic gardening, sustainability and getting kids involved in gardening.

They believe having an outdoor area that caters for children is more important than ever before, given the growing domination of digital technology.

Here, they share with us why we need to get kids out in the garden and the best ways to do just that.

Courtney is Weeding Women's first-ever male franchisee. He met and married Diana early during their 11-year working career in the Royal Australian Corps of Signals. The couple's army jobs involved many stints to war zones worldwide, often meaning

extended periods away from home.

Their decision to start their own Weeding Women franchise came from a mutual desire to spend more time together and with their two children, Heather, six, and Jeremy, three.

"We wanted to reprioritise our lives by putting our home and family first," said Courtney.

"Working together doing gardening, which is something we both love, means we get to spend more time together and have the flexibility to fit work around our kids."

Diana's own childhood sparked her passion for gardening, which has rubbed off on Courtney. "It's in my blood," Diana said.

"I enjoyed gardening from a very young age, always playing with dirt and bugs, or helping my mum and grandma in the vegie garden."

The Smiths now live and breathe life outdoors. Their Duncraig home is a horticulturalist's dream, featuring a massive 400 sqm tiered garden filled with fruit trees, native plants and a coop of 10 chickens.

Healthy vegetable patches yield endless fresh produce like strawberries, leeks, carrots, lettuce, beans, broccoli, brussel sprouts and more.

### HELPING LITTLE HANDS GET DIRTY

"With the growth of digital technology, there's a worrying trend of kids being too sedentary and spending long periods indoors," Courtney said.

"There are so many negative effects of this, which are well publicised."

He says having a garden or outdoor area that is enticing for kids, gives them plenty of great opportunities to want to head outside.

"Making your garden accessible and interesting for kids is a great way to get them outdoors and keep them there longer," he said.

*To enquire about Weeding Women for your garden, or for franchise enquiries, phone 1800 24 74 84 or visit [weedingwomen.com.au](http://weedingwomen.com.au).*



## IDEAS

### Easy + enticing

The more colourful and enticing your outdoor space, the better chance you have of getting the kids involved. Bright flowers, secret spaces or pathways, worm farms, creative gardens for imaginary fairies or animals, and spots to explore are all great options.

### Get experimental

Let the kids plant seedlings or cuttings in handmade newspaper pots and watch them grow. We often take cuttings when on walks at the park and bring them home to plant. Give the kids responsibility for watering and caring for their own little plants and they will love to see what grows from them. If a plant really starts to take off, you can easily transfer it straight to the ground by leaving it in its newspaper pot which will breakdown naturally in the ground.

### Grow your own

Start a vegie patch. Kids love picking vegies and fruit from their backyard. It is really beneficial for them to see where their food comes from and be involved in the process of growing and cooking it. If your backyard isn't suited to a full-scale vegie patch, try using tubs, a square-foot garden, or a tiered planter box to suit your available space. Fruit trees can be a simple and attractive addition to any garden bed.

### Cut back the chemicals

Making your garden as free as possible from pesticides and chemicals is obviously a wise idea. Use organic plant materials, including potting mixes, manures and fertilisers where possible. Naturally, supervision of children in the garden is still always important.

### Fighting the war on weeds

Weeding Women care for gardens of every shape and size, from yards, flowerbeds, pots and pathways to rural properties, holiday homes, commercial gardens and everything in between. Their clients are busy career people, families, FIFO workers and retirees, as well as local businesses.

*Diana and Courtney's new Weeding Women Dun Craig franchise services an extensive zone of 14 suburbs across Perth's northern corridor, including Beldon, Carine, Craigie, Dun Craig, Greenwood, Hillarys, Kallaroo, Kingsley, Marmion, Mullaloo, Pabury, Sorrento, Warwick and Woodvale. PL*

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