

RAISED BED GARDENS

Questions Answered | Soil Recipes | Inspiration

Raised bed gardening has exploded in popularity. Maybe it is the clay soil so many of us have here in Kentucky! If you are looking for less weeds & pests, better soil, higher yields or simpler maintenance, raised beds are a great choice. Many of us have made the switch to raised beds over several years, but we are warning you: they are addictive! It is hard to go back to traditional tilled gardens.

How Much Soil Do I Need?

1 Cu Ft of soil = 6.5 Gallons

Use this formula to determine Cubic Feet:

L x W x H = Cubic Feet

Example: an 8' x 4' x 6" (0.5')

raised bed = 16 Cu Ft

16 Cu Ft x 6.5 (gal) = 104

Gallons of Soil is needed to fill your bed

What Amendments Are Best?

We recommend a blend of 1/3 peat, 1/3 vermiculite, and 1/3 compost.

This is a premium mix that is tried and true by ourselves, and 1000's of our customers over the years. We suggest using 3 to 5 varieties of compost, such as composted cow manure, mushroom compost, and worm castings.

TIP

*As awesome as the above recipe is, your garden will still need additional nutrients through the season. We suggest **Smart Tea**, our own mix of fish emulsion, kelp, molasses, mycorrhizae for enhanced root growth, with BT for natural pest protection.*



NEW EARTH
ORGANICS & HYDROPONICS

What can I plant in a raised bed? You can easily grow herbs, flowers, vegetables, asparagus, berries, shrubs. We grow most veggies in beds with corn and beans in a standard garden plot.

What sort of materials should I use? Cedar wood is durable and long-lasting. Untreated wood needs more frequent replacement, but is less expensive to start with. Composite is durable and ok for certified organic gardens. Bricks, blocks and stones are great and can make attractive raised beds for landscaping (think edible landscaping!)

How high should the raised bed be? We suggest 6" - 12" for most garden plants; larger plants often need higher beds. We also suggest biodegradable weed barrier to prevent weeds.

Most raised beds will be 3' x 6' or 4' x 8', with a wide enough path between for your wheelbarrow and garden tools.



Spotlight on Seeds

Let's demystify seed packs:

- Heirloom Seeds
- Open Pollinated Seeds
- Hybrid Seeds (NOT GMO)

Open pollinated plant seeds will remain true to the parent plant, providing they have not cross-pollinated with other open pollinated varieties. You can save your seeds from year to year and see the same characteristics in future generations. Cross-pollination can be avoided by using caution with plant placement in the garden.

Heirloom seeds come from open pollinated varieties that are typically 50 years or older. Often valued for flavor, they have been preserved and kept true for years. They are often valued for flavor, as they have not been bred for other characteristics.

Hybrid seeds are the cross of two distinct strains of plants; bred for enhanced characteristics such as disease resistance, early ripening and longer shelf life. The seeds of hybrid plants will not remain true to the parent and will very likely be inferior to either parent plant.

SAMPLE 8' X 4' X 0.5' RAISED BED (104 GALLONS)

*Note that percentages do not always work out precisely, and we suggest using higher % of peat and allow for settling.

	Gal	Price
1 Bale Org Peat	50	\$19.99
1 4 Cu Ft Vermiculite	26	\$39.99
2 Composted Manure	13	\$11.98
2 Mushroom Compost	13	\$13.48
1 Worm Casting	6.5	\$19.99
	<hr/> 108.5	<hr/> \$105.92

This is a mix we would personally use in our own raised beds, and is an investment that will provide many years of growing.

OUR MOST POPULAR RAISED BED AMENDMENTS

Tried and true, taking the guesswork out of filling your raised beds.

	Gals	Cu/Ft	Cost
Bale Organic Peat	50	7.6	\$19.99
4 cu ft Vermiculite	26	4	\$39.99
Composted Manure	6.5	1	\$ 5.99
Mushroom Compost	6.5	1	\$ 6.99
Worm Castings	6.5	1	\$19.99
5 KG Coco Coir	16.5	2.5	\$13.00
Foxfarm Planting Mix	6.5	1	\$18.99
4 cu ft Perlite	26	4	\$19.99
Compst Chick Manure	6.5	1	\$17.99
Bale Pro Mix	50	7.6	\$44.99
Ocean Forest Mix	9	1.5	\$22.99
Happy Frog Soil	12	2	\$23.99

We also carry a wide variety of bat guano, kelp, greensand, bone meal, blood meal, organic berry mix, azomite, lime, gypsum, etc. Ask for/pick up our Organic Amendment brochure.

