

CONSTRUCTION OF RAISED BED 4'x4'x1'.

Supplies:

1 - 2" x 12" x 16' of untreated wood
1 pound 1" exterior screws

4 - 3"x3" angle brackets*
8 - 4"x4" angle brackets*

OR 1-2"x2"x4'

16 cubic feet of vegetable soil mix

Tools:

- Tape measure
- Pencil
- Saw
- Level
- Carpenter's square
- Cordless drill
- Screw driver bits for drill
- Rake
- Small nails/staple gun
- String
- Newspaper or cardboard

Basic instructions:

1. Mark off an area approximately 4'x4'. If you are making more than one raised bed, leave at least 2' of space between each bed for a pathway.
2. Soak newspaper or cardboard in a bin, and lay down a layer approximately 1/2" thick.
3. Cut 16' boards in 4' lengths.

*If using brackets, follow directions 4, 5 & 6. If using 2"x2"x4', skip to 7 & 8.

4. Alternately butt the ends of the planks to create a square. (see diagram)
Place a 4" bracket 1 1/2" from the top and bottom of the planks at each outside corner.



5. Fully attach 4" brackets to one corner at a time. Use a carpenter's square to ensure all corners are at right angles. Avoid placing screws closer than 1" to the end of wood to prevent splitting.
6. Attach 3" brackets to middle of each inside corner.

7. Cut 2" x2"x4' into 1 foot lengths.
8. Place a 1 foot length into each corner of box, and attach with screws to stabilize the square.
9. Place finished box on top of newspaper.
10. Add 2" mulch on top of newspaper.
11. Fill raised bed with soil and rake it smooth.
12. Create a grid for square foot gardening by measuring inside dimensions and driving a small nail or screw at 1' intervals around the perimeter of the raised bed. Loop string around nails to create 16 squares.