



RAISED GARDEN BED PLANS

CRAFTSMAN[®]

V20[™]
LITHIUM ION

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04 ABOUT RAISED GARDEN BEDS

05 STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS

WARNING

- To reduce the risk of injury, follow all warnings and instructions provided herein and in all tool operator manuals you use.
- Sand and smooth all edges to avoid injuries due to splinters or rough edges.

TYPE OF WOOD

The type of wood that you use is a big deal. Wood is porous; anything that is on the wood will eventually leach into your garden and get into your veggies. Using a “clean wood” that can handle moisture is best.

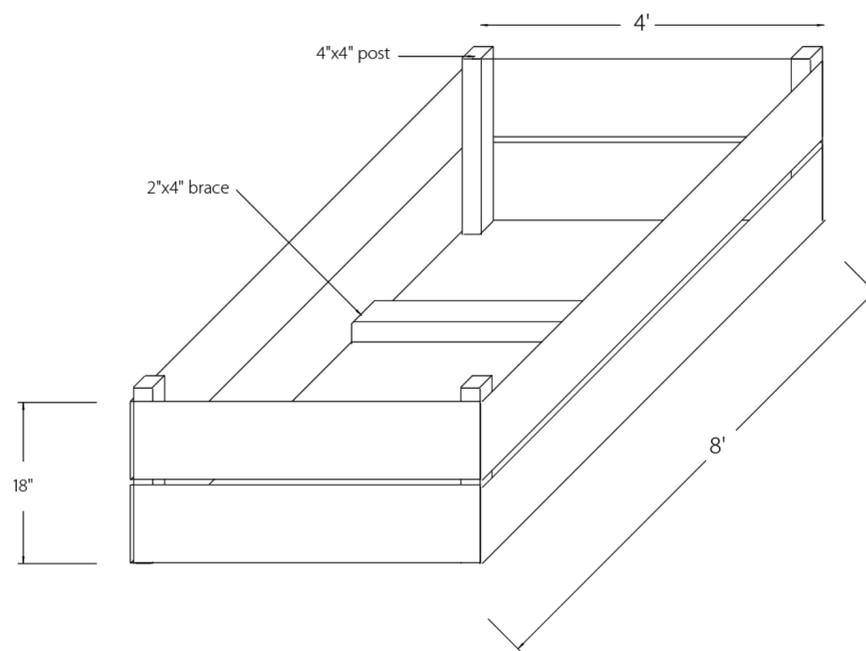
- Cedar is often considered the best choice. On average, it will last about two years in the garden. It is a clean wood but can be pricey and difficult to source.
- Pressure-treated is a blend of woods that have been chemically treated to withstand the elements longer. New technology is changing the types of preservatives used and also reducing the amount of chemicals that leach into the soil, making it more environmentally friendly and affordable.
- Redwood is a beautiful option with a great natural colour. It will last as long as cedar in the garden; however, this is the most expensive of the three options, and the most difficult to find.

MATERIALS

- 4 x 4"x4" posts
- 4 x 2"x10"x8'
- 4 x 2"x10"x4'
- 4 x 4"x4"x20"
- 1 x 2"x4"x48"
- 2"x4" brace
- Screws
- Landscape fabric
- Garden soil

TOOLS

- V20* 6½" Cordless Circular Saw
- V20* ½" Cordless Drill/Driver
- Tape measure
- Level



In the most simplistic terms, a raised garden bed is usually four walls and a lot of soil on top of the ground. Raised beds are a great way to garden for lots of different reasons:

- Raised beds allow you to garden in the soil of your choosing. By working on top of the existing ground, a raised bed lets you garden in a space where the soil is subpar. Whether you have rock, clay or even sketchy soil, building on top of it and adding the soil of your choosing ensures that your plants have the best chance to grow big and healthy.
- Having several raised beds helps you keep track of what was planted where. Plants need to be rotated; for example, tomatoes need to be grown in a different spot each year. By moving them around the garden beds, plants can be properly rotated and soil will remain nutrient-rich.
- Raised beds can be installed on rooftops and balconies, or on top of gravel and concrete - most vegetables only need 4-8 inches of soil to grow.
- Raised beds are better at deterring several pests, because of the elevated walls.
- With raised beds, the garden can be tended without the kneeling or excessive bending.

WARNING

Prior to starting, ensure to read all steps for this build and have your safety equipment ready, including ear protection, safety glasses, gloves, and a respirator if sanding.

- 01** Start by levelling the ground as much as possible - this is an important first step to prevent soil leakage after a heavy rain.
- 02** Determine the preferred size of the garden bed. An ideal width is less than four feet. Remember that a bed that is deeper than six feet will be very difficult to reach down into.
- 03** After measuring and cutting the boards, attach them together in a box by using a 4"x4" post in each corner to anchor them.
- 04** If the sides of the garden are longer than 6', add a brace to prevent them from bowing out from the weight of the soil. Install a cross-piece inside the garden that holds the two sides together, or hammer a stake down the outside of the bed at the middle to provide extra support.
- 05** Once the first level of the garden bed is built, line the bottom and the sides with landscape fabric to prevent weeds from growing into your beds. Staple the fabric to the inside of the boards as this will never be seen when the garden is full of soil.
- 06** Add more walls to the side of the garden but avoid exceeding 18-inches in height. This is an easy height for dumping soil over the sides of the walls – any taller and soil will have to be lifted in by the bag or shovel.
- 07** Add soil and start planting.

HELPFUL HINTS

- When watering, the soil is going to run out from under the boards. To avoid that, line the garden with landscape fabric across the bottom *before* adding soil. Bring the fabric up the sides of the bed so that the soil will hold it in place.
- Avoid walking on the raised bed. Compacted soil makes it harder for plants and seeds to grow, so try to keep everything light and fluffy.

CREDIT

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