

# Important Information for Homeowner

## Selecting a Location - Garden Setting or Patio

Walk around your property and make notes of the following:

- sunny spots
- slope of the land
- light blocking trees and high buildings.

Don't hide your Raised Bed away in a dark corner.

Ensure you have easy access to it.

Place your Raised Bed on a level piece of land with good drainage. Take into account existing paths and utilities such as electricity and water.

Having a water supply at hand avoids carrying heavy watering cans from the tap to the raised bed.

## Preparing the Ground for a Garden Setting

Level ground beneath the raised bed prior to assembly. Your new Raised Garden Bed will be open on the bottom which enables plant roots to access soil nutrients below ground level. If there are gophers or moles in the garden area, lay hardware cloth, rocks or bricks (not included) on the floor of the unit, before adding soil.

Lay down a sand perimeter base for the Raised Bed frames to sit on if possible. Sand offers excellent drainage and will make it easier to level bed frames.

The Bed can also be located on almost any flat surface - sand, pebbles/gravel, concrete or asphalt. Preparing the soil and the sand base beneath the Raised Bed will not be necessary. Consider lining the Raised Bed with landscape fabric to prevent soil from seeping out. Twenty inches of soil should be plenty for most types of vegetables and flowers. Please check growing instructions for root depths prior to planting.

## Once the Raised Bed is Assembled - Add Soil

Use a quality soil ideal for growing vegetables, for the top 12 inches (approximately 3 cubic yards or 28 - 32 wheelbarrows). Any soil is suitable for the bottom 8 inches (approximately 1.5 cubic yards). Or, you may fill the bottom 8 inches with gravel, pebbles, rocks or wood chips.

Most 1/2 ton pickup trucks can haul 1 cubic yard of top soil if this is an option for you. Consider having soil delivered as opposed the buying bags by the cubic foot. There are 27 cubic feet in 1 cubic yard.

Fill the Raised Bed to the top of the wood framing (the start of the metal screening). In a few weeks, the soil will settle/drop about 4-6 inches. Top up if necessary.

Add soil within two weeks of planting. Fertilizer may be required. Check with your local garden growing expert before adding any fertilizer!

## Arranging and Planting Crops

Since requirements vary from region to region on how to arrange and plant crops, we recommend researching thoroughly before planting.

