



Preparing Your Vegetable Beds

Select a sunny location with well-drained soil.

Measure out a size and length that will be accessible. Beds that are about 30" wide allow for reaching the middle from either side. Mound beds toward the center to improve drainage.

Tip: There are some sturdy no-tools-required raised beds that make planting and harvesting easier and more accessible to the small space gardener.



Test soil samples from the area. You'll get a lot of information about your soil. If you already know your soil, just test the pH.

Get rid of weeds before amending the soil., Make sure that the bed is completely cleared of plants and weeds.



Amend the soil about 2 weeks before planting to a depth of 12" if you can. *Dr. Earth HomeGrown Vegetable Garden Planting Mix* is a wonderfully rich mixture that conditions your soil to create the best possible growing condition.

Choose varieties of vegetables that are well adapted to your region and known to be disease and pest resistant. Check with your local cooperative extension service for recommendations. Research companion plants, since some veggies do like to be planted right next to other types.

Fertilize evenly over the area and rake into the top 2". *Dr Earth Organic Tomato, Vegetable & Herb Fertilizer* will feed the roots of your vegetable plants abundantly and consistently. Repeat application 2-3 months later depending on the length of the growing season.

Encourage beneficial insects such as ladybugs, lacewing flies and hover flies by not spraying broad-spectrum pesticides, by planting the plants that nourish them (such as dill and zinnia) and by releasing purchased insects into your yard.