

# *Vegetable Garden Plans for Raised Beds*

## **Introduction**

Planning is an important step in having a successful vegetable garden. Not everyone has the time, energy or desire to do a vegetable garden layout. I have developed designs for several types of vegetable gardening to assist you in having your own fabulous and productive garden.

I have developed a simple and easy to follow plans that tell you when, where and what to plant in various types of garden sites. For each plan there are several different sizes which will provide a variety of vegetables for 1 or 2 persons or a family with vegetables all season. Choose the plan that works best for you and start growing your own vegetables

There is information on crop rotation, a month at a glance to do list and I will provide an exchange list so you will have flexibility if you do not want to grow certain vegetables.

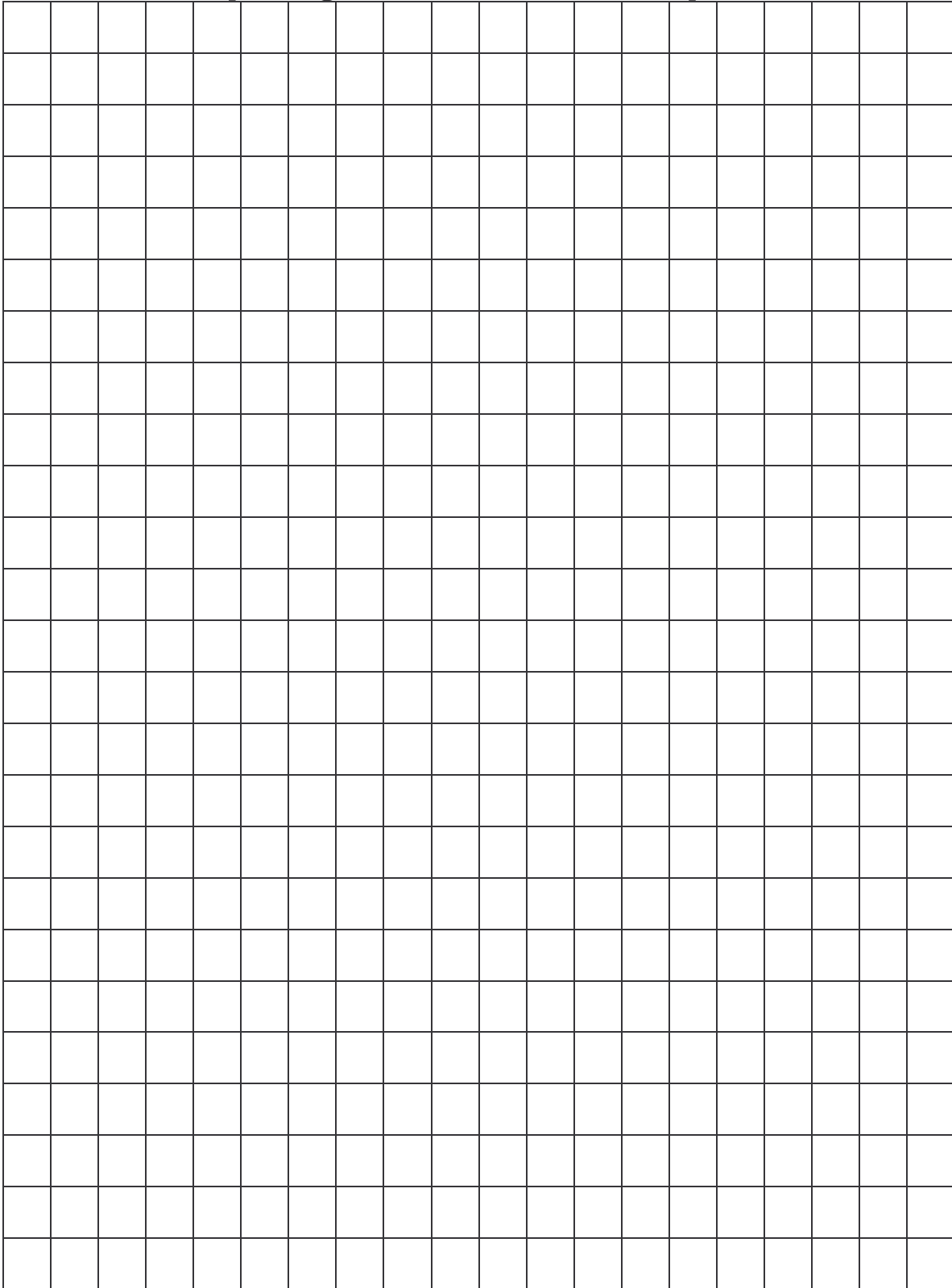
I hope you will find the Vegetable Garden Layouts easy to use and helpful in your own garden planning and record keeping.

Happy gardening,

*Catherine Abbott*

*[www.your-vegetable-gardening-helper.com](http://www.your-vegetable-gardening-helper.com)*

# My Vegetable Garden Layout



## **The Raised Bed Vegetable Garden Design**

A raised bed has sides which can hold soil. It is open to the ground below and can be made from various types of materials. The boxes are traditionally made of wood but can also be constructed with rocks, bricks, cement or any other material available to you that can contain garden soil. It can be from only inches deep to a few feet in depth depending on what you will be growing or for what structural or aesthetics you want for your garden site. A raised bed can be built to the specifications of who will be gardening in them.

The raised bed vegetable garden design has many benefits:

- It is a great design to use if you have a garden site with poor drainage. The raised area will dry quicker in the spring and will be easier to grow in off season.
- Is usually is not walked on which helps the soil structure by not being compacted.
- If you cannot or do not want to bend over too far the bed can be made as high as needed. Adding a ledge on top of the walls will allow you to sit while working in the bed.
- This type of garden style usually has a cleaner and tidier look than row gardening. Pathways can be easily mulched or mowed and the grass does not encroach into the garden bed.
- A trellis or a vegetable support system can be easily attached especially if the bed is made of wood.

In the following pages I have created designs from 2 to 8 raised beds. The beds are based on a 4 feet by 8 feet and 1 foot in depth design. These designs can be easily transferred to other sizes of raised beds for flexibility so you can enjoy a successful and productive vegetable garden.

## Vegetable Crop Rotation

Vegetable crop rotation is one of the main principles in growing organically. By rotating where you plant your vegetables each year you are enhancing the health of your garden soil by not depleting essential nutrients, by improving the soil structure and this process helps to control pests and diseases.

I have set up an easy 6 year vegetable rotation. Divide your garden beds or area into 6 similar size plots. Number your plots and plant a type of vegetable in that plot, next year moves to the next plot etc.

Plot 1 – **Heat loving vegetables** (such as tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, cucumbers, basil)

Plot 2 – **Peas and beans**

Plot 3 – **Brassicas** (such as cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, brussel sprouts, kale)

Plot 4 – **Root vegetables** (such as carrots, beets, turnips, and radish)

Plot 5 – **Lettuce and onions**

Plot 6 – **Potatoes or corn or squash**

Grow your perennial vegetables and herbs in an area where they can remain without causing problem when you need to do your soil preparation for the rest of your vegetable garden.

## Vegetable Exchange List

Vegetable plants need a certain amount of room in order to grow to maturity and in the plans on the following pages I have this figured out for you. However, if you do not want to grow a certain vegetable listed in the plan the chart below can help you decide what to plant instead. The chart is divided by crop rotation as well for your convenience.

Beside each vegetable the number represents the number of plant(s) that can be grown in a certain amount of space. For example you can plant 1 tomato or 2 peppers in an 18 square inch area.

### Heat loving vegetables – 18 inch square area

Tomato (1)  
Peppers (2)  
Eggplants (2)  
Basil (6)

### Brassicas – 16 inch square area

Broccoli (1)  
Cabbage (1)  
Cauliflower (1)  
Brussel sprouts (1)  
Kale (2)

### Root vegetables – 6 inch square area

Carrots (2)  
Beets (1)  
Turnip (1)  
Radish (2)  
Kohlrabi (1)

### Lettuce and Onions – 12 inch square area

Lettuce (1)  
Oriental greens (1)  
Spinach (1)  
Swiss chard (1)  
Onions (2)  
Leeks (2)  
Garlic (1)  
Celery (1)  
Salad greens, broadcasted (1)

### Potatoes, corn, and squash - 24 inch square area

Potato (3)  
Corn (6)  
Squash (1)  
Asparagus (2)  
Artichoke (2)  
Perennial herb such as sage, thyme, oregano or tarragon (1)

**Gardens like relationships  
will flourish when tended.**

*Kerry Boone*

## **64 square foot Raised Bed Vegetable Garden**

- This space can feed 1 to 2 people for a season.
- The example is based on 2 - 4 foot wide by 8 foot long bed
- A 2 foot wide pathway is recommended between the beds.

The table below shows you how many of each vegetable to plant across in the 4 foot wide bed. The number in inches is the total space needed for the plant to grow to maturity or the width of each row.

<u>3 tomatoes with 6 basil in between</u> 24 inch row
<u>4 peppers</u> 12 inch row
<u>16 peas</u> 6 inch row
<u>16 peas</u> 6 inch row
<u>16 beans</u> 6 inch row
<u>16 beans</u> 6 inch row
<u>2 cabbages; 2 cauliflower</u> 16 inch row
<u>2 broccoli; 2 brussel sprouts</u> 16 inch row
<u>4 marigolds</u> 4 inch row

<u>16 radishes</u> 6 inch row
<u>16 radishes</u> 6 inch row
<u>8 beets</u> 6 inch row
<u>8 beets</u> 6 inch row
<u>16 carrots</u> 6 inch row
<u>16 carrots</u> 6 inch row
<u>1 squash</u> 24 inch row
<u>6 lettuce</u> 12 inch row
<u>6 spinach</u> 12 inch row
<u>8 onions</u> 12 inch row

## Planting instructions

### For your 64 square foot Raised Bed Vegetable Garden

These dates are guidelines; get to know your own garden site and climate. When starting seedlings I have allowed for extra just in case all the seeds do not germinate. When planting direct you can plant a few extra as well for the same reason. If you choose to purchase your vegetable transplants rather than starting your own follow the setting out seedlings for the numbers needed. When buying transplants it is important to choose healthy plants with a strong green color and plant them as soon as you can after bringing them home.

#### Early March

##### Start seedlings in flats indoors:

Tomato	6 seeds
Basil	8 seeds
Peppers	6 seeds
Cabbage	2 seeds
Broccoli	2 seeds
Cauliflower	2 seeds
Brussel Sprouts	2 seeds
Onions	12 seeds
Lettuce	3 seeds
Spinach	3 seeds
Marigolds	4 seeds

#### Late March

##### Plant seeds directly in your garden

(Make sure your soil is not too wet or cold; if it is not ready plant these in early April.)

Peas, shelling	1 row; seeds 3 inches apart (about 16 seeds)
Peas, snow	1 row; seeds 3 inches apart (about 16 seeds)

#### Early April

##### Plant seeds directly in your garden (Make sure your soil is not too wet or cold.)

Carrot	1 row; seeds 2 inches apart (about 24 seeds)
Beet	1 row; seeds 3 inches apart (about 16 seeds)
Radish	1 row; seeds 2 inches apart (about 24 seeds)
Lettuce	½ row; seeds 6 inches apart (about 4 seeds)
Spinach	½ row; seeds 6 inches apart (about 4 seeds)

##### Start seedlings in flats indoors:

Cabbage	2 seeds
Broccoli	2 seeds
Cauliflower	2 seeds
Brussel Sprouts	2 seeds
Lettuce	3 seeds
Spinach	3 seeds
Squash	2 seeds



## Late April

### Set out seedlings to your garden

(Choose your healthiest transplant from early March seeding and give the other one away.)

Cabbage	1 plant
Broccoli	1 plant
Cauliflower	1 plant
Brussel Sprouts	1 plant
Lettuce	2 plants
Spinach	2 plants

## Early May

### Set out seedlings to your garden

(Choose your healthiest transplant from early March seeding and give the other one away.)

Onions	8 plants
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### Plant seeds directly in your garden (make sure your soil is not too wet or cold)

Carrot	1 row; seeds 2 inches apart (about 24 seeds)
Beet	1 row; seeds 3 inches apart (about 16 seeds)
Radish	1 row; seeds 2 inches apart (about 24 seeds)

## Late May

### Set out seedlings to your garden

(Choose your healthiest transplant from early March seeding and give the other one away.)

Tomato	3 plants
Basil	6 plants
Peppers	4 plants
Squash	1 plant
Broccoli	1 plant
Cauliflower	1 plant
Brussel Sprouts	1 plant
Lettuce	2 plants
Spinach	2 plants
Marigolds	4 plants

### Plant seeds directly in your garden

Beans, green	1 row; seeds 3 inches apart (about 16 seeds)
Beans, yellow	1 row; seeds 3 inches apart (about 16 seeds)

I used to visit and revisit it a dozen times a day, and stand in deep contemplation over my vegetable progeny with a love that nobody could share or conceive of who had never taken part in the process of creation. It was one of the most bewitching sights in the world to observe a hill of beans thrusting aside the soil, or a rose of early peas just peeping forth sufficiently to trace a line of delicate green.  
~*Nathaniel Hawthorne, Mosses from an Old Manse*

## 128 square foot Raised Bed Vegetable Garden

- This space can feed a small family for a season.
- The example is based on 4 - 4 foot wide by 8 foot long bed.
- A 2 foot wide pathway is recommended between the beds.

The following diagrams show you know how many of each vegetable to plant across in the 4 foot wide bed. The number in inches is the total space needed for the plant to grow to maturity or the width of the row.

<u>3 tomatoes with 6 basil in between</u> 24 inch row
<u>3 tomatoes with 6 basil in between</u> 24 inch row
<u>4 peppers</u> 12 inch row
<u>4 peppers</u> 12 inch row
<u>4 eggplants</u> 12 inch row
<u>4 cucumbers</u> 12 inch row

<u>16 peas</u> 12 inch row
<u>16 peas</u> 12 inch row
<u>16 beans</u> 12 inch row
<u>16 beans</u> 12 inch row
<u>4 Kale</u> 12 inch row
<u>4 cabbages</u> 16 inch row
<u>4 broccoli</u> 16 inch row
<u>4 marigolds</u> 4 inch row

<u>16 radishes</u> 6 inch row
<u>16 radishes</u> 6 inch row
<u>8 beets</u> 6 inch row
<u>8 beets</u> 6 inch row
<u>16 carrots</u> 6 inch row
<u>16 carrots</u> 6 inch row
<u>8 turnips</u> 6 inch row
<u>8 turnips</u> 6 inch row
<u>6 lettuce</u> 12 inch row
<u>6 spinach</u> 12 inch row
<u>8 onions</u> 12 inch row
<u>8 leeks</u> 12 inch row

<u>3 potatoes</u> 12 inch row
<u>3 potatoes</u> 12 inch row
<u>3 potatoes</u> 12 inch row
<u>3 potatoes</u> 12 inch row
<u>3 potatoes</u> 12 inch row
8 corn 12 inch row
8 corn 12 inch row
1 squash 24 inch row

## Planting instructions

### For your 128 square foot Raised Bed Vegetable Garden

These dates are guidelines; get to know your own garden site and climate. When starting seedlings I have allowed for extra just in case all the seeds do not germinate. When planting direct you can plant a few extra as well for the same reason. If you choose to purchase your vegetable transplants rather than starting your own follow the setting out seedlings for the numbers needed. When buying transplants it is important to choose healthy plants with a strong green color and plant them as soon as you can after bringing them home.

#### Early March

##### Start seedlings in flats indoors:

Tomato	8 seeds
Basil	16 seeds
Eggplants	4 seeds
Peppers	12 seeds
Cabbage	2 seeds
Broccoli	3 seeds
Kale	3 seeds
Onions	12 seeds
Lettuce	3 seeds
Spinach	3 seeds
Marigolds	4 seeds

#### Late March

##### Plant seeds directly in your garden

(Make sure your soil is not too wet or cold; if it is not ready plant these in early April.)

Peas, shelling	2 row; seeds 3 inches apart (about 16 seeds)
Peas, snow	2 row; seeds 3 inches apart (about 16 seeds)
Potatoes	12 seeds

#### Early April

##### Plant seeds directly in your garden (Make sure your soil is not too wet or cold.)

Carrot	1 row; seeds 2 inches apart (about 24 seeds)
Beet	1 row; seeds 4 inches apart (about 12 seeds)
Radish	1 row; seeds 2 inches apart (about 24 seeds)
Turnip	1 row; seeds 4 inches apart (about 12 seeds)
Lettuce	½ row; seeds 6 inches apart (about 4 seeds)
Spinach	½ row; seeds 6 inches apart (about 4 seeds)

##### Start seedlings in flats indoors:

Cucumber	6 seeds
Cabbage	3 seeds
Broccoli	3 seeds
Kale	3 seeds
Lettuce	3 seeds
Spinach	3 seeds
Squash	2 seeds

## Late April

### Set out seedlings to your garden

(Choose your healthiest transplant from early March seeding and give the other one away.)

Cabbage	2 plants
Broccoli	2 plants
Kale	2 plants
Lettuce	2 plants
Spinach	2 plants

## Early May

### Set out seedlings to your garden

(Choose your healthiest transplant from early March seeding and give the other one away.)

Onions	8 plants
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### Plant seeds directly in your garden (make sure your soil is not too wet or cold)

Carrot	1 row; seeds 2 inches apart (about 24 seeds)
Beet	1 row; seeds 4 inches apart (about 12 seeds)
Radish	1 row; seeds 2 inches apart (about 24 seeds)
Turnip	1 row; seeds 4 inches apart (about 12 seeds)

## Late May

### Set out seedlings to your garden

(Choose your healthiest transplant from early March seeding and give the other one away.)

Tomato	6 plants
Basil	12 plants
Peppers	8 plants
Eggplants	4 plants
Cucumber	4 plants
Squash	1 plant
Cabbage	2 plants
Broccoli	2 plants
Kale	2 plants
Lettuce	2 plants
Spinach	2 plants
Marigolds	4 plants

### Plant seeds directly in your garden

Beans, green	1 row; seeds 3 inches apart (about 16 seeds)
Beans, yellow	1 row; seeds 3 inches apart (about 16 seeds)
Corn	2 rows; seeds 6 inches apart (about 8 seeds/row)

**"There are no gardening mistakes,  
only experiments."**

*-- Janet Kilburn Phillips*

## 256 square foot Raised Bed Vegetable Garden

- This space can feed a family for a season.
- The example is based on 6 - 4 foot wide by 8 foot long beds.
- A 2 foot wide pathway is recommended between the beds.

The following diagrams show you know how many of each vegetable to plant across in the 4 foot wide bed. The number in inches is the total space needed for the plant to grow to maturity or the width of the row.

<u>3 tomatoes with 6 basil in between</u> 24 inch row  <u>3 tomatoes with 6 basil in between</u> 24 inch row  <u>4 peppers</u> 12 inch row  <u>4 eggplants</u> 12 inch row  <u>4 cucumbers</u> 12 inch row  <u>4 cucumbers</u> 12 inch row	<u>16 peas, shelling</u> 12 inch row  <u>16 peas, shelling</u> 12 inch row  <u>16 peas, snow</u> 12 inch row  <u>16 peas, snap</u> 12 inch row  <u>16 beans, green</u> 12 inch row  <u>16 beans, green</u> 12 inch row  <u>16 beans, yellow</u> 12 inch row  <u>16 beans, pole</u> 12 inch row	<u>4 cabbage</u> 16 inch row  <u>4 cabbages</u> 16 inch row  <u>4 marigolds</u> 4 inch row  <u>4 kale</u> 12 inch row  <u>4 brussel sprouts</u> 16 inch row  <u>4 broccoli</u> 16 inch row  <u>4 broccoli</u> 16 inch row
<u>16 radishes</u> 6 inch row <u>16 radishes</u> 6 inch row <u>8 beets</u> 6 inch row <u>8 beets</u> 6 inch row <u>8 beets</u> 6 inch row <u>8 beets</u> 6 inch row <u>8 turnips</u> 6 inch row <u>8 turnips</u> 6 inch row <u>16 carrots</u> 6 inch row <u>16 carrots</u> 6 inch row <u>16 carrots</u> 6 inch row <u>16 carrots</u> 6 inch row <u>16 carrots</u> 6 inch row <u>16 carrots</u> 6 inch row <u>16 carrots</u> 6 inch row	<u>6 lettuce</u> 12 inch row  <u>6 spinach</u> 12 inch row  <u>6 lettuce</u> 12 inch row  <u>6 spinach</u> 12 inch row  <u>8 leeks</u> 12 inch row  <u>8 leeks</u> 12 inch row  <u>8 onions</u> 12 inch row  <u>8 onions</u> 12 inch row	<u>3 potatoes</u> 12 inch row  <u>3 potatoes</u> 12 inch row  <u>3 potatoes</u> 12 inch row  <u>3 potatoes</u> 12 inch row    1 squash 24 inch row    1 squash 24 inch row

## Planting instructions

### For your 256 square foot Raised Bed Vegetable Garden

These dates are guidelines; get to know your own garden site and climate. When starting seedlings I have allowed for extra just in case all the seeds do not germinate. When planting direct you can plant a few extra as well for the same reason. If you choose to purchase your vegetable transplants rather than starting your own follow the setting out seedlings for the numbers needed. When buying transplants it is important to choose healthy plants with a strong green color and plant them as soon as you can after bringing them home.

#### Early March

##### Start seedlings in flats indoors:

Tomato	8 seeds	Brussel sprouts	3 seeds
Basil	16 seeds	Onions	20 seeds
Eggplants	4 seeds	Leeks	20 seeds
Peppers	6 seeds	Lettuce	4 seeds
Cabbage	6 seeds	Spinach	4 seeds
Broccoli	6 seeds	Marigolds	4 seeds
Kale	3 seeds		

#### Late March

##### Plant seeds directly in your garden

(Make sure your soil is not too wet or cold; if it is not ready plant these in early April.)

Peas, shelling	2 row; seeds 3 inches apart (about 16 seeds/row)
Peas, snow	1 row; seeds 3 inches apart (about 16 seeds)
Peas, snap	1 row; seeds 3 inches apart (about 16 seeds)
Potatoes	12 seed potatoes

#### Early April

##### Plant seeds directly in your garden (Make sure your soil is not too wet or cold.)

Carrot	4 rows; seeds 2 inches apart (about 24 seeds/row)
Beet	2 rows; seeds 4 inches apart (about 12 seeds/row)
Radish	1 row; seeds 2 inches apart (about 24 seeds)
Turnip	1 row; seeds 4 inches apart (about 12 seeds)
Lettuce	½ row; seeds 6 inches apart (about 4 seeds)
Spinach	½ row; seeds 6 inches apart (about 4 seeds)

#### Early April

##### Start seedlings in flats indoors:

Cabbage	6 seeds
Broccoli	6 seeds
Kale	3 seeds
Brussel sprouts	3 seeds
Lettuce	6 seeds
Spinach	3 seeds
Squash	3 seeds
Cucumber	4 seeds



## Late April

### Set out seedlings to your garden

(Choose your healthiest transplant from early March seeding and give the other one away.)

Cabbage	4 plants
Broccoli	4 plants
Kale	2 plants
Lettuce	3 plants
Spinach	3 plants

## Early May

### Set out seedlings to your garden

(Choose your healthiest transplant from early March seeding and give the other one away.)

Onions	16 plants
Leeks	16 plants

### Plant seeds directly in your garden (make sure your soil is not too wet or cold)

Carrot	4 rows; seeds 2 inches apart (about 24 seeds/row)
Beet	2 row; seeds 4 inches apart (about 12 seeds)
Radish	1 row; seeds 2 inches apart (about 24 seeds)
Turnip	1 row; seeds 4 inches apart (about 12 seeds)
Lettuce	½ row; seeds 6 inches apart (about 4 seeds)
Spinach	½ row; seeds 6 inches apart (about 4 seeds)

## Late May

### Set out seedlings to your garden

(Choose your healthiest transplant from early March seeding and give the other one away.)

Tomato	6 plants
Basil	12 plants
Peppers	4 plants
Eggplants	4 plants
Cucumber	4 plants
Squash	2 plants
Cabbage	4 plants
Broccoli	4 plants
Kale	2 plants
Lettuce	3 plants
Spinach	3 plants
Marigolds	4 plants

### Plant seeds directly in your garden

Beans, green	4 rows; seeds 3 inches apart (about 16 seeds)
Beans, yellow	1 row; seeds 3 inches apart (about 16 seeds)
Beans, pole	1 row; seeds 3 inches apart (about 16 seeds)
Cucumber	4 seeds 12 inches apart

No two gardens are the same.  
No two days are the same in one garden.

*~Hugh Johnson*

## **484 square foot Raised Bed Vegetable Garden**

- This space can feed a family for a season.
- The example is based on 8 - 4 foot wide by 8 foot long beds.
- A 2 foot wide pathway is recommended between the beds.

The following diagrams show you know how many of each vegetable to plant across in the 4 foot wide bed. The number in inches is the total space needed for the plant to grow to maturity or the width of the row.

<u>3 tomatoes with 6 basil in between</u> 24 inch row  <u>3 tomatoes with 6 basil in between</u> 24 inch row  <u>4 peppers</u> 12 inch row  <u>4 eggplants</u> 12 inch row  <u>4 cucumbers</u> 12 inch row  <u>4 cucumbers</u> 12 inch row	<u>16 peas, shelling</u> 12 inch row  <u>16 peas, shelling</u> 12 inch row  <u>16 peas, snow</u> 12 inch row  <u>16 peas, snap</u> 12 inch row  <u>16 beans, green</u> 12 inch row  <u>16 beans, green</u> 12 inch row  <u>16 beans, yellow</u> 12 inch row  <u>16 beans, pole</u> 12 inch row	<u>4 cabbage</u> 16 inch row  <u>4 cabbages</u> 16 inch row  <u>4 marigolds</u> 4 inch row  <u>4 kale</u> 12 inch row  <u>4 brussel sprouts</u> 16 inch row  <u>4 broccoli</u> 16 inch row  <u>4 broccoli</u> 16 inch row	<u>16 radish</u> 6 inch row <u>16 radish</u> 6 inch row <u>8 beets</u> 6 inch row <u>8 beets</u> 6 inch row <u>8 beets</u> 6 inch row <u>8 beets</u> 6 inch row <u>8 turnips</u> 6 inch row <u>8 turnips</u> 6 inch row <u>16 carrots</u> 6 inch row <u>16 carrots</u> 6 inch row <u>16 carrots</u> 6 inch row <u>16 carrots</u> 6 inch row <u>16 carrots</u> 6 inch row <u>16 carrots</u> 6 inch row <u>16 carrots</u> 6 inch row
<u>6 lettuce</u> 12 inch row  <u>6 spinach</u> 12 inch row  <u>6 lettuce</u> 12 inch row  <u>6 spinach</u> 12 inch row  <u>8 leeks</u> 12 inch row  <u>8 leeks</u> 12 inch row  <u>8 onions</u> 12 inch row  <u>8 onions</u> 12 inch row	<u>1 squash</u> 24 inch row  <u>1 squash</u> 24 inch row  <u>8 corn</u> 12 inch row  <u>8 corn</u> 12 inch row  <u>8 corn</u> 12 inch row  <u>8 corn</u> 12 inch row	<u>3 potatoes</u> 12 inch row  <u>3 potatoes</u> 12 inch row  <u>3 potatoes</u> 12 inch row  <u>3 potatoes</u> 12 inch row  <u>3 potatoes</u> 12 inch row  <u>3 potatoes</u> 12 inch row  <u>3 potatoes</u> 12 inch row	Perennial vegetable such as asparagus or Berries such as Raspberries, Blueberries Strawberries or Perennial herbs such as Thyme, oregano, Sage, tarragon

## Planting instructions

### For your 484 square foot Raised Bed Vegetable Garden

These dates are guidelines; get to know your own garden site and climate. When starting seedlings I have allowed for extra just in case all the seeds do not germinate. When planting direct you can plant a few extra as well for the same reason. If you choose to purchase your vegetable transplants rather than starting your own follow the setting out seedlings for the numbers needed. When buying transplants it is important to choose healthy plants with a strong green color and plant them as soon as you can after bringing them home.

#### Early March

##### Start seedlings in flats indoors:

Tomato	8 seeds	Kale	3 seeds
Peppers	6 seeds	Brussel sprouts	3 seeds
Basil	16 seeds	Onions	20 seeds
Eggplants	4 seeds	Leeks	20 seeds
Cabbage	6 seeds	Lettuce	4 seeds
Broccoli	6 seeds	Spinach	4 seeds
Marigolds	4 seeds		

#### Late March

##### Plant seeds directly in your garden

(Make sure your soil is not too wet or cold; if it is not ready plant these in early April.)

Peas, shelling	2 row; seeds 3 inches apart (about 16 seeds/row)
Peas, snow	1 row; seeds 3 inches apart (about 16 seeds)
Peas, snap	1 row; seeds 3 inches apart (about 16 seeds)
Potatoes	12 seed potatoes

#### Early April

##### Plant seeds directly in your garden (Make sure your soil is not too wet or cold.)

Carrot	4 rows; seeds 2 inches apart (about 24 seeds/row)
Beet	2 rows; seeds 4 inches apart (about 12 seeds/row)
Radish	1 row; seeds 2 inches apart (about 24 seeds)
Turnip	1 row; seeds 4 inches apart (about 12 seeds)
Lettuce	½ row; seeds 6 inches apart (about 4 seeds)
Spinach	½ row; seeds 6 inches apart (about 4 seeds)

#### Early April

##### Start seedlings in flats indoors:

Cabbage	6 seeds
Broccoli	6 seeds
Kale	3 seeds
Brussel sprouts	3 seeds
Lettuce	6 seeds
Spinach	3 seeds
Squash	3 seeds
Cucumber	4 seeds

## Late April

### Set out seedlings to your garden

(Choose your healthiest transplant from early March seeding and give the other one away.)

Cabbage, red	4 plants
Broccoli	4 plants
Kale	2 plants
Lettuce	3 plants
Spinach	3 plants

## Early May

### Set out seedlings to your garden

(Choose your healthiest transplant from early March seeding and give the other one away.)

Onions	16 plants
Leeks	16 plants

### Plant seeds directly in your garden (make sure your soil is not too wet or cold)

Carrot	4 rows; seeds 2 inches apart (about 24 seeds/row)
Beet	2 row; seeds 4 inches apart (about 12 seeds)
Radish	1 row; seeds 2 inches apart (about 24 seeds)
Turnip	1 row; seeds 4 inches apart (about 12 seeds)
Lettuce	½ row; seeds 6 inches apart (about 4 seeds)
Spinach	½ row; seeds 6 inches apart (about 4 seeds)

## Late May

### Set out seedlings to your garden

(Choose your healthiest transplant from early March seeding and give the other one away.)

Tomato	6 plants
Basil	12 plants
Peppers	4 plants
Eggplants	4 plants
Cucumber	4 plants
Squash	2 plants
Cabbage	4 plants
Broccoli	4 plants
Kale	2 plants
Lettuce	3 plants
Spinach	3 plants
Marigolds	4 plants

### Plant seeds directly in your garden

Beans, green	4 rows; seeds 3 inches apart (about 16 seeds)
Beans, yellow	1 row; seeds 3 inches apart (about 16 seeds)
Beans, pole	1 row; seeds 3 inches apart (about 16 seeds)
Cucumber	4 seeds 12 inches apart

# Monthly Planning at a Glance

## January:

- Start planning for the new season in your journal.
- Plan your garden layout; remember to rotate your vegetables.
- List the vegetables you want to grow.
- Go to the library and take out gardening books for inspiration.
- Order your seed catalogs

## February:

- Read seed catalogs and other gardening books for information.
- Order your seeds.
- Start tomato, lettuce and spinach seedlings indoors.
- Do a soil test to find out what nutrients your garden soil may need.
- Check and clean your garden tools and equipment.

## March:

- Visit garden centers.
- Start your garden soil preparation.
- Read your seed packets before planting.
- Start planting potatoes and peas outdoors.
- Start tomato, onion, leeks and basil seedlings indoors.

## April:

- Start planting your lettuce, spinach, radishes, brassica, leeks outdoors.
- Start cucumber, squash, eggplant, and pepper seedlings indoors.
- Start weeding your garden beds.
- Start mulching to suppress weeds.
- Start a new compost pile.

## May:

- Harvest lettuce, spinach, radishes that were planted early in April.
- Continue to successive sow lettuce, spinach, carrots, and radishes.
- Start winter crops of brassicas in seedling trays.
- Sow corn, beans, cucumber and squash towards the end of the month.
- Plant out tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, squash at the end of the month.

## June:

- Keep your garden weeded.
- Watch for signs of pests, insects and diseases.
- Stake your tomatoes and nip out the side shoots.
- Fertilize your vegetable plants.
- Make sure your vegetable garden is getting sufficient water.

# Monthly Planning at a Glance

## **July:**

- Enjoy your harvest.
- Continue to water, weed and fertilize your garden.
- Watch for signs of tomato leaf roll, blossom drop and virus diseases.
- Continue to succession sow and set out winter crops.
- Mark certain vegetable plants that you want to keep for seeds.

## **August:**

- Harvest your vegetables regularly so they continue to produce more.
- Continue to succession sow lettuce, Chinese greens, and radishes.
- Mexican bean beetles, Colorado potato beetles, squash vine borer, clubroot, and blossom end rot can show up this month.
- Keep vegetable plants well watered and weeded.

## **September:**

- Keep harvesting.
- Plant green manures on any bare soil in your garden beds.
- Pull your tomato plants and allow green fruit to ripen indoors.
- Save seeds from your best vegetable plants for next year.
- Frost protection may be needed in certain areas.

## **October:**

- Cultivate and add compost and manure to your garden beds.
- Plant garlic and over wintering onions.
- Harvest pumpkins and winter squash.
- Start your garden clean up.
- Start a new compost pile.

## **November:**

- Continue to plant more garlic.
- If your climate allows sow lettuce, spinach, and Chinese greens.
- Mulch any vegetables that are still in your garden.
- Continue to clean up any garden debris and add to your compost.
- Organize and sort left over seeds.

## **December:**

- Order “My Vegetable Garden Journal” for next year.
- Evaluate how your vegetable garden grew.
- Continue to mulch if you have vegetables still in the garden.
- Check stored vegetables and remove any that are rotting.
- Give garden gifts to friends and family over the holiday season.

# **My Maintenance Records**



# Tools and Equipment Inventory

If you are just starting out and need to purchase all your tools start with a good quality shovel, stirrup hoe, garden hose and a bucket. As you go along purchase a wheelbarrow, rake, pitch fork and a water wand. If you need larger equipment like a rototiller or weed eater save money and time by renting them.

My garden tip: **Always keep your tools clean and sharp!**

Item	Date purchased	Date cleaned
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

**Tools and Equipment needed** Writing down what you want and need right now will make it easier for garden and budget planning.

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# Watering Record

Your vegetable plants need water to grow. Too little water causes plants to wilt and die; too much moisture can also destroy your plant. Most vegetables need a minimum of 1 inch of water per week. If you are using a sprinkler set out an empty can in the garden area so it will catch water and see how long it takes to reach one inch (usually about an hour).

My garden tip:

**Check you soil before watering; dig down about 3 inches and if the soil is dry, give your plant some water!**

Date	Location	How much given
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

## Observations:

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# Fertilizing Record

Your vegetable plants will probably need a little boost of nutrients during the growing season. Compost or aged animal manure is great amendments to add to any type of garden soil. Top dress your plant which means placing a shovel full of compost or manure around the base of each vegetable plant, and then water over it. Nutrients in the compost or manure will soak in giving the plant roots the nutrients.

If you do not have a lot of compost, fill a pail 1/3 full of compost and then fill it with water. Cover the pail and leave it overnight. The next day you have a wonderful brown liquid called compost tea. Pour this around the base of your plants for a similar affect to top dressing.

My garden tip: **A soil test can give you invaluable information about your garden soil!**

Date	Location	Type	How much given
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

## Observations:

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# Mulching Record

Mulch can be any material laid over your garden soil; usually at the base of your plants to protect them by suppressing weeds and by enriching the soil as they decompose. Depending on what kind of material you are using, you may need to add a fresh layer every few months.

Mulch is also used to warm up your soil in the spring, keep it cool and moist during the summer months and to provide protection from the rain in the fall.

My garden tip:

**Save your grass clippings, leaves and newspaper to use as organic mulch!**

Date	Location	Type	How much
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

## Observations:

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# Pest and Disease Management

The best pest and disease management is to have a healthy garden soil, keep your garden clean of debris, and keep your plants healthy by proper watering and fertilizing. Plants that are stressed are more likely to be susceptible to problems.

My garden tip:

**Take time to walk through your garden everyday and observe your vegetable plants. By doing this you can tell if something is wrong and you can then quickly intervene!**

Date	Problem	Control used	Result
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

## Observations:

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# My Vegetable Garden Observations

How well did my vegetables grow? Were there any surprises?

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Were there certain varieties that grew well or did poorly?

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Was the garden too large for me or can I go bigger next year?

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Was the weather, pests or diseases a factor in my success?

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Were the vegetables I planted worth the space they used?

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Did I eat everything I harvested? Was there anything I did not like?

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Do I need to plant more or less of a certain vegetable?

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Did I try something new this year, did it work?

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