

How to Build a Raised Garden Bed

It is just March and we are already dreaming of baskets full of freshly harvested tomatoes. When it comes to getting your hands in the soil, it does not matter if you are a beginner or advanced gardener. This step-by-step guide will aid you in constructing your very own raised garden bed.

Getting Started...

What you'll need:

- 24, 2-inch galvanized deck screws
- One 2-by-4 board, 8 feet long
- Three 2-by-12 boards, 8 feet long

In regards to wood, cedar is best but any untreated wood should work fine. Never use pressure treated lumber when building your raised bed!



Preparing the Boards:

Step 1:

- The two 2-by-12 boards will serve as the lengths of the bed.

Step 2:

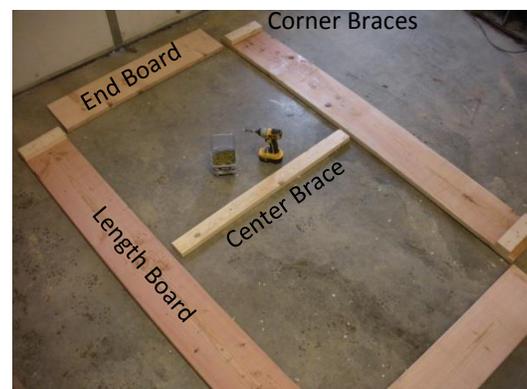
- Cut one 2-by-12 into two, 4ft boards to serve as the end boards.

Step 3:

- Cut the one 8ft 2-by-4 into one, 4ft board to serve as a center brace for the raised bed.

Step 4:

- With remaining 4 feet from previously cut 2-by-4, cut into 4, 11in pieces for corner braces.



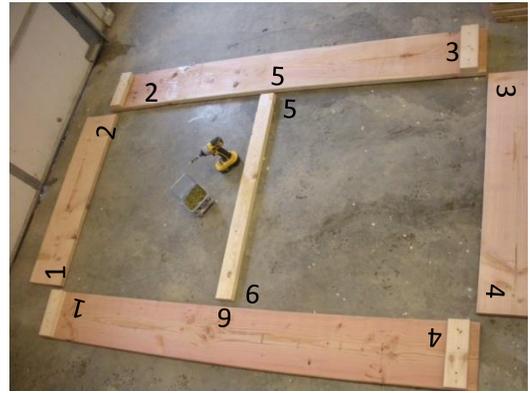
Assembly:

*Each corner is labeled with a number. Match corners to corresponding numbers.

Example: 1 to1

Step 1:

- Attach the four, corner braces to the ends of each 8ft side board, about 2in from the edge.



Step 2:

- After drilling starter holes, secure one of the side boards to an end board with three evenly spaced screws. Working with the same corner, drill two more screws into the brace of the adjacent end board for further support.
- Complete this same step in all four corners until all length and end boards are secured.



Step 3:

- With the 4ft, 2-by-4, center brace in middle of bed (4ft in) and about 1in up from the bottom of the side boards.
- Secure the center brace by drilling in screws from both of the length boards.



Your completed raised bed should look like this!