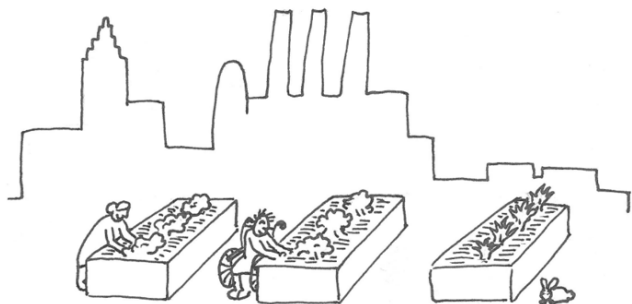


# Growing in raised beds

## Pros and cons of raised bed gardening

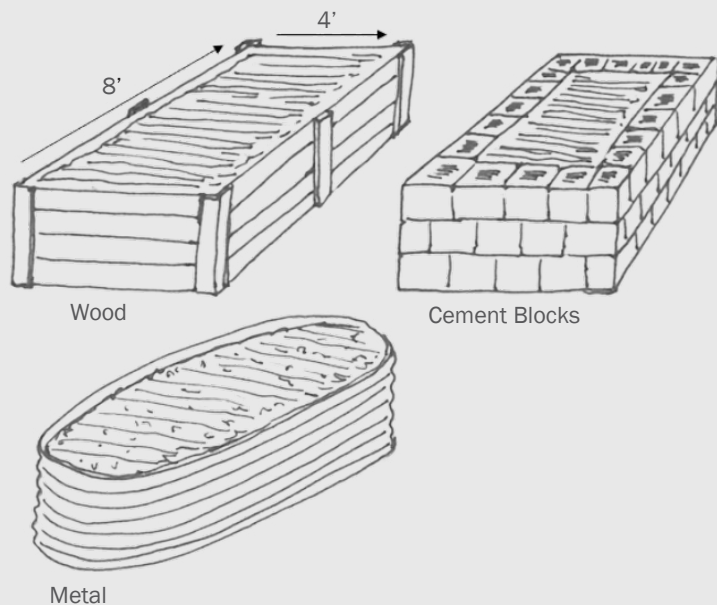
### Benefits of raised beds



- Areas that have poor/no soil or drainage.
- Detering small pests like rabbits and woodchucks from getting to vegetables.
- If built tall enough, they require less bending down. This can be helpful for people with limited mobility.
- Establishing well-defined spaces. This can keep pathways clean and keep people from walking in the planting beds.

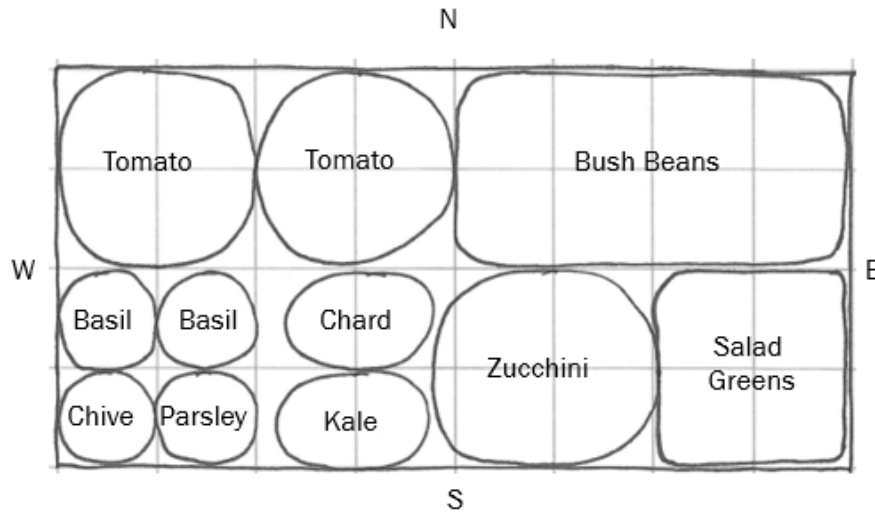
Note: Building and filling raised beds can be expensive and take time. Unless the above points are very compelling for you, try gardening in-ground with a small fence and clearly marked pathways.

### Building raised beds



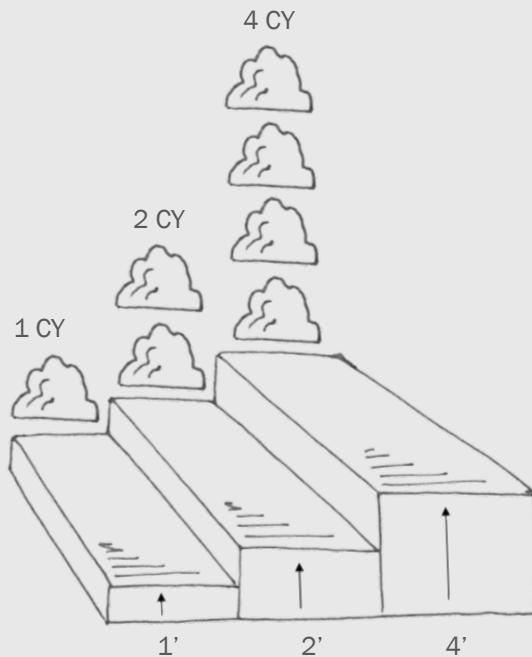
A common raised bed dimension is 4 ft X 8 ft and sidewalls can be made from any material that will hold soil. Common siding materials are wood, metal and cement blocks.

## Sample planting map for 4 ft x 8 ft raised bed



1 square = 1 square foot

## Filling raised beds



Landscape businesses sell mixes of soil and compost by the cubic yard (CY) that are great for filling raised beds. Raised beds that are 4ft wide X 8ft long require about 1 cubic yard of soil mix for each foot of its height.