
5
Tips
to help grow
quality vegetables
in your garden!
GARANTIA®
Making the most of your garden

1.

Ensure your bed has good drainage


Our Urban Planter – the perfect working height!

If you want to grow fresh produce without the need of an allotment or you don't have a large garden space to do so, then you can grow your own vegetables in a raised bed which takes up very little space. Depending on the height of the raised planter, this option also means you can work at a comfortable ergonomic height without causing stress to your lower back or knees.


Raised beds must have adequate drainage

With most raised beds being made out of wood or plastic, in most cases they will have a sealed base and the water won't be able to drain from the raised bed. During periods of heavy rainfall this could waterlog the soil and without adequate drainage excess water in the soil can drown the roots of the vegetables and shut out oxygen, as roots respire too!

The best way to tackle this is to drill holes into the bottom of the raised bed if it is sealed off at the bottom and didn't come with any pre-drilled drainage holes.

2.

Check the length of time the sun hits your vegetables

For your vegetables to grow they need 3 things; water, soil and sunlight. But knowing how much sunlight your vegetables need is important to ensure you get the best harvest as possible, as different vegetables require different amounts of sunlight.

If you are looking to grow leafy vegetables such as lettuce and cabbage, then you will need to find a space in your garden that is exposed to sunlight for a minimum of 4 hours a day.

If you are going to grow good old-fashioned root vegetables such as carrots and parsnips, then you will need space in your garden that gets a minimum of 6 hours of sunlight a day.

Finally, if you are fortunate enough to have a garden that is exposed to 8 hours of sunlight a day you can grow fruiting vegetables such as tomatoes and peppers.

Depending on what type of vegetables you want in your garden, make sure you choose a spot that gives your vegetable patch the right amount of sunlight to grow.



How much daily sunlight will your raised bed get?



Regularly water your raised bed.



Follow the sunshine with a raised bed you can move

3.
Make sure you have the right soil mix


Make sure you have the right soil mix.


Loamy soil is best for leafy vegetables.

As mentioned before, vegetables need soil to grow but it is important to know what type of soil is best for growing vegetables in your garden.

If you are going to grow leafy vegetables in your garden you should look to use loamy soil, which is a combination of clay, sand and silt. The benefits of using this type of soil is that they avoid the extremes of each other, they are fertile and well-drained.

If you are looking to grow root vegetables in your garden, you need to know that root vegetables need well-drained and loose soil that allow the vegetables' roots to grow and expand.

Finally, if you are looking to grow fruiting vegetables, like leafy vegetables, fruiting vegetables prefer loamy soil.

When you decide on what vegetables you would like to grow in your garden, you must make sure you choose the right type of soil to grow them in.

4.
Succession planting by staggering sowing times

Succession sowing is simply sowing a new row of seeds every few weeks to ensure you have a continuous supply of vegetables throughout the growing season. There are certain types of vegetables that benefit from succession sowing, for example, quick-maturing vegetables such as; carrots, peas and French beans are best sown regularly in batches or rows.

Successional sowing works well in a raised bed as it is easier to sow seeds in short rows every few weeks. Plus having a raised bed lets you choose where you locate it to ensure, as mentioned before, the vegetables you choose to grow get the optimal amount of sunlight.



Succession sowing for continuous supply.



Mix veg and flowers with our Ergo raised beds

5. Vegetables need nutrition (fertiliser)



Boost growth by using fertiliser.



Fertilisers contain concentrated plant nutrients.

Like any other living organism, vegetables need nutrition to grow and the best way for vegetables to get a concentrated source of nutrition is fertiliser. Fertilisers help to improve plant growth, if you have a healthy soil mix, it may not be necessary to use a fertiliser, but using a fertiliser will help your produce to grow quicker.

Both organic and inorganic fertilisers contain concentrated sources of plant nutrients, most fertilisers contain major plant nutrients, these are; nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium and both types of fertilisers have their own benefits.

Inorganic fertilisers are more concentrated than organic sources and tend to be faster acting, so your vegetables will grow much quicker. However, if you choose to use organic fertiliser over time the organic materials will improve the structure of the soil and improve the soil's ability to hold water for longer. If you plan to use the vegetable bed for multiple seasons then organic fertiliser might be better to use than man-made fertilisers.