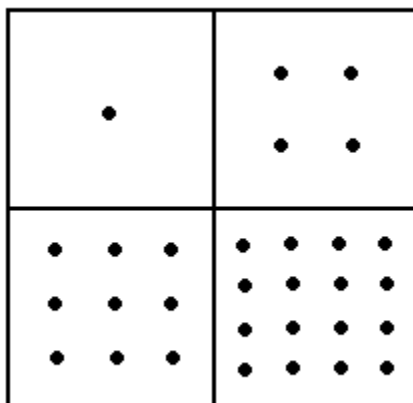


Square Foot Spacing Guide

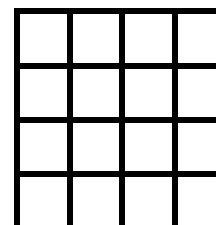


Cool Season		Perennials/Herbs		Warm Season	
Plant	# per sqft	Plant	# per sqft	Plant	# per sqft
Arugula	4	Asparagus	1	Beans, Bush	4 to 9
Beets	9lg/16sm	Blackberries	1	Beans, Pole	4 to 9
Broccoli (& Raab)	1	Chives	16 or more	Corn	4
Brussels Sprouts	1	Marjoram	4	Cucumber	2
Cabbage	1	Mint	1	Edamame (Soybean)	4 to 9
Carrot	16	Oregano	1	Eggplant	1 per 2sqft
Cauliflower	1	Parsley	4	Melon	1
Chard, Swiss	1 to 4	Rhubarb	1 per 1.5sqft	Okra	1
Collards	1	Rosemary, Large	1 per 4sqft	Pepper	1
Fennel	4	Rosemary, Small	1	Potato, Sweet	1
Garlic	9	Sage	1	Pumpkin	1 per 3sqft
Kale	1	Sorrel	4	Squash, Bush	1 per 9sqft
Kohlrabi	4	Strawberry	4	Vine	1 per 2sqft
Leeks	9	Thyme	1 to 4	Tomato	
Lettuce	4			Staked	1 per 1sqft
Mustard	4	ANNUAL HERBS:		Caged	1 per 4 sq ft
Onion	16	Basil (warm season)	1lg/4sm	Watermelon	1 per 2sqft
Peas	9	Cilantro (cool season)	4		
Potato, Irish	4	Dill (cool season)	4		
Radish	16				
Rutabaga	4 to 9	Perennials aren't recommended for square foot gardening because of their permanence, but if you would like to plant them, the recommended spacings are shown above.			For vining things like melons and winter squash, allow the vines to grow outside the bed.
Shallot	16				
Spinach	9				
Turnip	4				

Square Foot Gardening Basics

Square foot gardening is a method based on French intensive planting methods and popularized by Mel Bartholomew. Instead of long monoculture rows of one type of vegetable, Square Foot Gardening focuses on planting only a few plants each of many types, all planted together in a small area, spaced closely. This close spacing allows for much produce to be grown in a small area, and for easier care; due to the close spacing of the plants, there is less weeding, feeding, and watering needed. It is an excellent gardening style for the beginning home gardener with a small plot.

First, find a spot in full sun and remove all vegetation or sheet mulch the area. Next, build a 4'x4' raised bed out of two 2"x6"x8' boards, either cedar or plain untreated yellow pine, cut in half and nailed/screwed into a square. Lay it flat on the ground and fill it with **Nature's Creation Garden Soil** or **Fox Farm Original Planting Mix** or blend your own soil mix, see below for our suggested recipe. For best results, fertilize with a quality organic fertilizer according to package directions.



Next, mark off the bed in a square foot grid as shown in the graphic above right. This grid is what differentiates Square Foot Gardening from other types of gardening and allows you to plant accurately and easily with the correct spacing. You can use hemp string and thumbtacks, but a longer-lasting grid can be made from cement reinforcing wire, aka remesh, cut into one-foot squares. You may find it helpful to draw a “map” of your bed on paper as a grid and start filling in the squares with the vegetables you want to grow, then make a list from that and go shopping. There are sixteen square foot spaces in a four-by-four bed, so you may be surprised at how much you can fit into your little garden!

Finally, the fun part - planting! Simply use the spacing guide on the reverse of this page to space the plants adequately. Put tall plants to the north and west so they don't shade out the shorter ones. Put vining crops such as peas on trellises along the back row, again so they don't shade out other plants. Water in with **liquid seaweed** to avoid transplant shock, then mulch with **pine straw** to conserve water.

Harvest when plants or fruits have reached full size. After harvest has ended, pull and replant, adding more **compost** and **fertilizer** at the same time.

For more information on Square Foot Gardening or the French Intensive Planting Method, consult Mel Bartholomew's book *Square Foot Gardening*, or books by John Jeavons: *How to Grow More Vegetables: And Fruits, Nuts, Berries, Grains and Other Crops Than You Ever Thought Possible on Less Land Than You Can Imagine* or the more concise *The Sustainable Vegetable Garden: A Backyard Guide to Healthy Soil and Higher Yields*.

Planting Mix Recipe

For one 6-inch-deep 4'x4' box, you'll need:

Compost Blend	Coarse Vermiculite	Coir Fiber
3 cubic ft of high-quality compost. (Avoiding manure-based compost, especially for tomatoes.)	3 cubic ft (¾ of one of our 4 cubic foot bags)	3 cubic ft of coconut coir fiber