



SQUARE FOOT GARDENING

No Weeding, No Digging, No Tilling, No Kidding!

What is Square Foot Gardening?

A simple, unique and versatile system that adapts to all levels of experience, physical ability, and geographical location. Grow all you want and need in only 20% of the space of a conventional row garden. Save time, water, work and money.

The Ten Basics of Square Foot Gardening

1. LAYOUT – Arrange your garden in squares, not rows. Lay it out in 4' by 4' areas.
2. BOXES – Build boxes to hold a new soil mix above ground – only 6 inches deep.
3. AISLES – Space boxes 3' apart to form walking aisles.
4. SOIL – Fill boxes with special soil mix: 1/3 compost (made from many different ingredients), 1/3 peat moss, 1/3 coarse vermiculite. Existing soil doesn't matter.
5. GRID – Make a square foot grid for the top of each box to organize the garden for planting.
6. CARE – Never walk on the growing soil. Tend your garden from the aisles. Few, if any, weeds sprout and are easily pulled with fingers. Soil stays loose and friable. Easy to protect from weather.
7. SELECT – Plant a different flower, vegetable, or herb crop in each square foot, using spacing of 1, 4, 9 or 16 plants per square foot. Crop rotation happens naturally.
8. PLANT – Conserve seeds. Plant only a pinch (2 or 3 seeds) per hole. Place transplants in a slight saucer-shaped depression. Plant only what you will use during each season. No waste.
9. WATER – Ideally water by hand from a bucket of sun-warmed water (hose or drip system okay).
10. HARVEST – When you finish harvesting a square foot, add compost to replenish nutrients and replant with a new and different crop.

LOCATION



Pick an area that gets 6-9 hours of sunshine daily.



Stay clear of trees/shrubs where roots/shade may interfere.



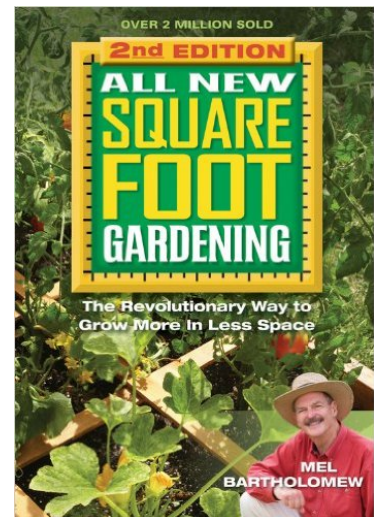
Have it close to the house for convenience and protection.



Existing soil is not really important. You won't be using it.



Area must not puddle after a heavy rain.



SFG Ideas:

- Humanitarian Efforts
- Public/Home Schools
- Eagle Scout Projects
- Young Women Projects
- Senior Centers
- Hospitals
- Community Gardens
- Home Gardens

"I've taken all the hard work out of gardening. No digging, weeding, thinning, or all at once harvest. What's left is a productive, well-kept colorful garden that looks more like a landscaped area than a typical single-row garden." - Mel Bartholomew, Originator of the SFG Method

For more info, visit www.squarefootgardening.org