

Raised Bed Garden Soil: Recipe for Success

There is more than one way to build raised bed soil. The combinations suggested below are meant to lay a foundation for many years of planting to come. Investing in your soil will help

The math!

You can find free volume calculators online. Make sure you select the correct units of measurement.

1. Calculate cubic feet length x width x depth (all in feet)
2. Choose your materials and calculate how many cubic feet of each you need.
 - Hint: multiply total cubic feet by 0.20 for 20%, 0.33 for 33%, 0.50 for 50%
3. Divide the cubic feet needed for the specific material by the volume of the bag (bag size)
4. Example: A 4ft long x 2 ft wide x 1 ft deep = 8 cu. ft. You want 30% compost, 50% top soil, and 20% perlite
 - 30% of 8 cu. ft. = 2.4 cu. ft., 50% of 8 cu. ft. = 4 cu. ft., 20% of 8 cu. ft. is 1.6 cu. ft.
 - 2.4 cu. ft. of compost needed divided by 1.5 cu. ft. sized bags = 1.6 bags
 - 4 cu. ft of topsoil needed divided by 1 cu. ft sized bag = 4 bags
 - 1.6 cu. ft. of perlite needed. Perlite is in 4 cu. ft. bags so 1 bag is required

\$\$\$ Creates a rich but well-draining soil that will last with minimal refreshing needed over time

30%	COMAND Lawn & Turf
50%	Black Kow Top Soil
20%	Perlite

\$104*

30%	Happy Frog Soil Conditioner
50%	Black Kow Top Soil
20%	Perlite

\$112 *

\$\$ Balance of value and quality. Some settling and refreshing will be needed over time

50%	COMAND Lawn & Turf
50%	Black Kow Top Soil

\$90 *

50%	COMAND Lawn & Turf
50%	Pine Fines

\$75 *

\$ Best value but will settle and may require more soil in following years

50%	Black Kow Top Soil
30%	Black Kow or Mushroom Compost
20%	Pine Fines

\$52 *

*Cost estimates are based on 8 cu. ft. bed (4 ft x 2 ft x 1 ft) in fall of 2025. Prices are subject to change