



## Let's make gardening easy - The No-Dig Garden

Even if we enjoy gardening we all try to make it as easy as possible. The idea of the 'no dig garden' takes away all that heavy digging.

A 'no dig garden' is usually a raised garden bed so there is no necessity to bend over so far or kneel to pluck out any weed that may appear. Edging for raised garden beds is readily available at hardware stores, or you can use anything that may be laying around. The garden bed needs to be at least 30cm off the ground. Select a nice sunny position. The garden can be built on concrete, gravel or straight on top of lawn with no need to dig up the grass before beginning.

A no-dig garden is constructed in layers. You can start with some twigs and small branches as the wood helps with drainage. Then a good layer of newspapers and cardboard. Wet each layer as you go. Add some mulch, manure, straw and more manure. The manure contains grass seeds so make sure it is well down so the weeds do not grow. Add a layer of soil, some dry leaves, and some grass clippings. Kitchen waste and coffee grounds can also be scattered to make another layer.

Don't forget to wet each layer as you go. Finish your garden with a top layer of soil and mulch such as sugarcane mulch.

Pop your seedlings in and watch them grow.

The layers will break down over time so make sure your garden is nice and high to begin with. The garden will need to be topped up with more layers from time to time.

Do not let the garden dry out as it is very hard to make it nice and moist again.

