

# tipsheet - Raised Garden Bed Design

## General Info

Raised beds are wildly recommended for backyard gardens in New Orleans. This design helps address any issues associated with possible soil contamination. Concrete blocks or untreated hardwood are the best material to build with because of their durability and integrity. Untreated pine wood WILL rot and treated wood is not recommended due to potential chemical leaching. Using found or recycled bricks, rocks or hardwood makes raised beds even more affordable.

## 4'8" X 10" Concrete Block Raised Bed Garden

### Materials

- ▲ Soil Test
- ▲ 30' Roll Garden Fabric Weed Barrier
- ▲ 40 Cinderblocks (or equal amount found material)
- ▲ 1.5 yards of Garden Soil
- ▲ +/- ½ yard of sand (if necessary)
- ▲ Garden tools: rake, shovel, skuffle hoe, etc.
- ▲ Level

### Process

- ▲ First, determine where the sunniest available area is.
- ▲ Remove all grass and level the ground. Use sand if necessary.
- ▲ Use Garden Fabric as a barrier between the ground and new soil.
- ▲ Lay out the first layer of blocks around the perimeter. Insure the bocks are flat by using a level.
- ▲ Lay out the second layer of blocks in a staggered pattern (very important).
- ▲ Fill in the raised bed with soil and other composed materials, ie: manure.
- ▲ Plant your veggies and flowers.

