

# People around the world are using the Square Foot Gardening Method to become successful gardeners!



Learn the easiest, most productive method of gardening without the weeds, work, and waste of a traditional row garden! The Square Foot Gardening (SFG) Method was created by Mel Bartholomew as an alternative to row gardening. This condensed method of gardening uses less water, soil, space, and fewer tools. Reduce, reuse, and recycle are big themes in the SFG Method! Create a Square Foot Garden in your backyard, on a rooftop or balcony, in a parking lot, or in a community garden. Utilizing Mel's Mix™ - a special growing soil that you can make yourself - and a grid for plant-spacing, it's easy to maintain and it's perfect for beginner gardeners. For more detailed information, it is recommended that you purchase a copy of the *All/New Square Foot Gardening, 3rd Edition* book, or borrow it from your local library. Here is an overview of the basics!

## THE 10 BASIC PRINCIPLES:

- 1. PLANT DENSELY** Don't waste space. You can grow a lot of produce in much less space that you dreamed possible. A huge row garden just isn't necessary—placing a few Square Foot Garden beds in a relatively small space can be more productive than a large row garden that occupies a good portion of your yard.
- 2. GROW UP** The greatest productivity comes by growing up, not out. A variety of easy-to-build trellis structures allow vining vegetables to use the vertical plane rather than sprawling out as they do in a traditional row garden.
- 3. MEL'S MIX™, NOT GARDEN SOIL** You don't need your old garden soil to grow great vegetables. The best results come if you make your own growing medium—the fabulous formula Mel Bartholomew created, which we call Mel's Mix™.
- 4. GARDEN CLOSE TO YOUR HOME** Gardens are more efficient when planted close to your house, not in a distant plot. It's human nature to pay attention to what is close-at-hand, and Square Foot Gardens should be close to your house where you can admire them and tend them easily.
- 5. GROW SHALLOW** Raised beds don't have to be large and deep: a mere 6 inches of growing medium is all it takes for most crops. Gone are the days of laboriously digging and double-digging a row garden to mix in soil amendments to improve the soil.
- 6. FERTILIZER IS NOT NEEDED** Mel's Mix has a rich mixture of different organic composts, and provides all the nutrients that plants need. Just add fresh compost when you replant a square.
- 7. KEEP AISLES BETWEEN BOXES NARROW** Rather than long rows, a vegetable garden is most efficient planted in small boxes with aisles set about 3 feet apart. The traditional practice of planting long rows with wide, empty spaces between them just creates more ground in which weeds can grow. That's too much work!
- 8. BE STINGY WITH SEEDS** Rather than planting lots of seeds, then thinning them out to the desired spacing, SFG uses a simple 1, 4, 9, 16 spacing guideline. No wasting seeds or thinning. Seeds can last for two or more growing seasons when stored properly.



**9. PLANT IN SQUARES** Planting in 1-foot squares is the most efficient way to plant. Mel viewed this as one of the very important basics of his method. The grids are key to planting efficiently and rotating in new crops when the first crop has produced its bounty. And by planting with diversity—many different types of plants intermingled in a single box—you eliminate many of the disease problems that can plague a traditional garden.

**10. ROTATE CROPS** Rotation planting is automatic in a SFG and gives the maximum yield from your garden. The yield from a single 4' x 4' SFG will surprise you, and the reason is that many of the squares can be planted at least twice in a gardening season—either with two successive crops of the same vegetable or swapping out a new crop for late-season produce.

**In practice, these 10 principles of Square Foot Gardening become the core by which you can garden with remarkable efficiency. The first steps can be done well before the growing season starts—and don't we all like to dream and plan during the late-winter and early spring months, when we are just itching to get out in the garden again?**

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# The 8 Steps of Building Your Square Foot Garden

This is meant to be an overview. For details, we recommend using the book as a guide.

**1. PLAN YOUR GARDEN** Create a map of your garden by drawing a big square with 16 squares inside. Use pencil as you may want to adjust your planning. If you have the *All New Square Foot Gardening Method, Third Edition* book handy, refer to Chapter 3 to learn how to plan your boxes to grow the amount of produce you're likely to need. Tip: put plants that will grow the tallest on the North side of the box and plants that require more attention such as bush beans near the borders of the box.



**2. LAY OUT THE GARDEN** A sunny location close to the house is the best spot. Use Chapter 4 to plan the shape and configuration of the SFG boxes and map out where they will be located in your yard/area.

**3. BUILD BOXES AND GRIDS** A simple 4' x 4' box is the recommended layout for beginners. If you choose to do another configuration, just make sure you can walk all the way around your box and be able to reach into each square. Grids allow for visualization for planting and help prevent overplanting. Grids also maximize the harvest. Chapter 5 provides instructions about how to build the basic 4' x 4' box that is six inches deep, as well as other box shapes and sizes.

**4. BUILD BOX ACCESSORIES** Consider building trellises to get the most use of space, protective covers for pest and critter protection, or other accessories for maximum productivity and efficiency.

**5. CREATE MEL'S MIX™** One of the most important factors in SFG is creating a special growing medium. To make Mel's Mix™, you will need a large tarp, particle mask for dust, shovel or rake, compost, coarse vermiculite, peat moss, and a water supply. Spread out the tarp, empty the measured compost onto it, then add peat moss and mist lightly with hose. Add the coarse vermiculite and mix well. Transfer mix to garden box, water thoroughly, and add your grid. It is recommended to follow the book for best results and Chapter 7 explains the importance of using this mix.

**6. PLANT** Chapter 8 provides details about how to plant with no wasted seeds. If you decide not to use seeds, you can start your garden with the "plant starts". These are the plants already started in cell packs that you find in your local nursery or garden centers. Divide your squares into either 1, 4, 9, or 16 holes for seeds/plants. Determine the number per square by thinking of the grown plant in sizes of small, medium, large, and extra large. Use your fingers to evenly divide 1x1-foot squares into appropriate number of holes, depending on the crops.

- 1 per square for extra-large crops such as broccoli, cabbage, and peppers
- 4 per square for large crops such as a leaf lettuce, swiss chard, or flowers
- 9 per square for medium crops such as bush beans, spinach, or beets
- 16 per square for small crops such as carrots, radishes, or onions

**7. MAINTAIN** In Chapter 9 you'll learn techniques for watering and weeding your garden, as well as inspecting it and tending to any pest problems and diseases. Some tips include: hand water at base of plant. Avoid sprinklers! Overhead watering is wasteful and causes disease. Hand pick pests or cut away infected plant part with scissors. Wash scissors afterward. Clean up any dead debris around plants. Vertical crops - weave in and out of netting weekly being careful not to break.

**8. HARVEST** With careful planning, your garden will have a good, long harvest season. Given the diverse planting pattern of a Square Foot Garden, this pleasure occurs all through the gardening season and beyond. Chapter 10 will help guide you with timing your harvest, harvesting techniques, and storing your harvest.



All New  
*Square Foot  
Gardening,  
3rd Edition*  
is available  
through  
Amazon.com  
or your local  
book store.

The proven way to grow more in less space, without the hard work. Let SFG get you on the right path to start growing. Visit: [www.squarefootgardening.org](http://www.squarefootgardening.org) and we'll show you how.

# Planning Your Square Foot Garden

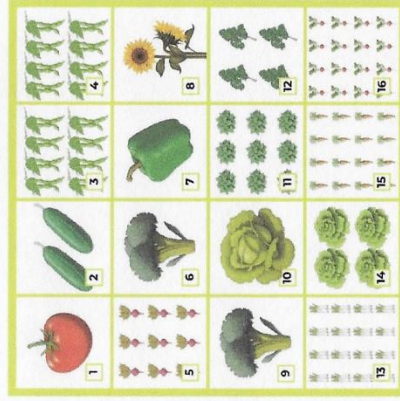
To get the most out of your Square Foot Garden, use this worksheet to plan your garden beds.

## How Many Vegetables or Fruits to a Square?

Mel divided up vegetables, fruits, and flowers into size categories so you'd know how many of each to plant in a square. Here's a handy list:

 <b>1 PER TWO SQUARES*</b>	 <b>2 PER SQUARE*</b>	 <b>8 PER SQUARE*</b>
Summer Squash (vine)	Cucumber	Snap Pea
Pumpkin or Winter Squash (vine)	 <b>4 PER SQUARE</b>	Pole Bean
Cantaloupe or melons	Head lettuce	
 <b>1 PER SQUARE</b>	Kale	 <b>9 PER SQUARE</b>
Tomato (vine)	Swiss Chard	Turnips
Cabbage	Arugula	Beets
Okra	Parsley	Spinach
Broccoli	Strawberry	Onion – bulb
Cauliflower	Potato	Bush Bean
Pepper (hot or sweet)	Marigold	
Tomatillo	Pansy	<b>16 PER SQUARE</b>
Cilantro	Salvia	Carrots
Basil (large)	Basil (small)	Radish
		Bunching Onions

\*This is a personal choice, as it deviates from the 1-4-9-16 typical spacing.



The easy vegetable garden is planted with these vegetables, reading from top left: (1) Tomato x 1; (2) Cucumber x 2; (3) Pole bean x 8; (4) Pole bean x 8; (5) Beet x 9; (6) Broccoli x 1; (7) Green pepper x 1; (8) Flowers; (9) Broccoli x 1; (10) Cabbage x 1; (11) Spinach x 9; (12) Parsley x 4; (13) Green onion x 16; (14) Leaf lettuce x 4; (15) Carrots x 16; (16) Radishes x 16.

## Laying Out Your Garden: Rules of Thumb

- Grow climbing or vining vegetables in an outside row along the north side of your bed
- Avoid planting two squares with the same vegetables right next to each other whenever possible
- Include a square planted with flowers to attract pollinators and help with pest control.

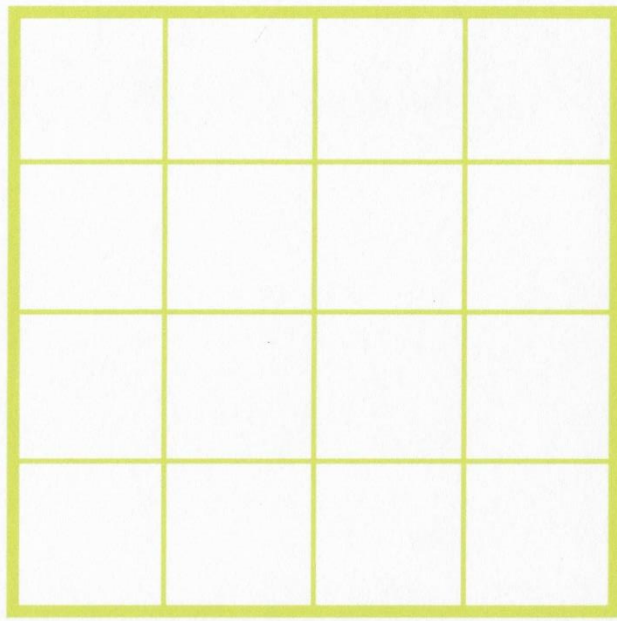
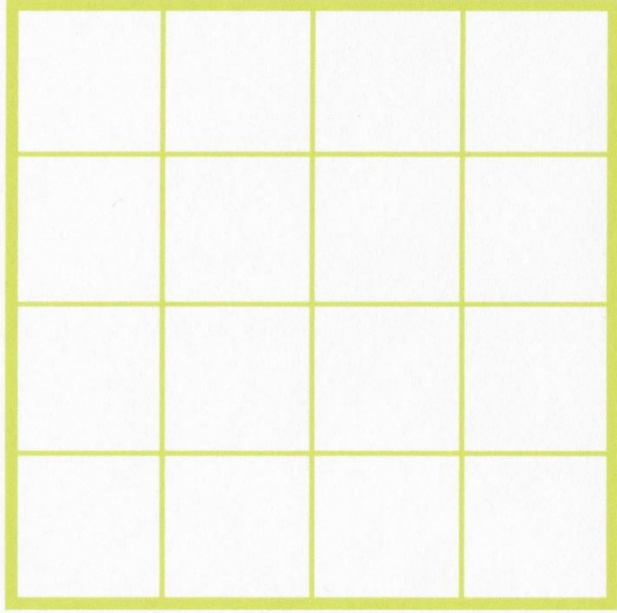
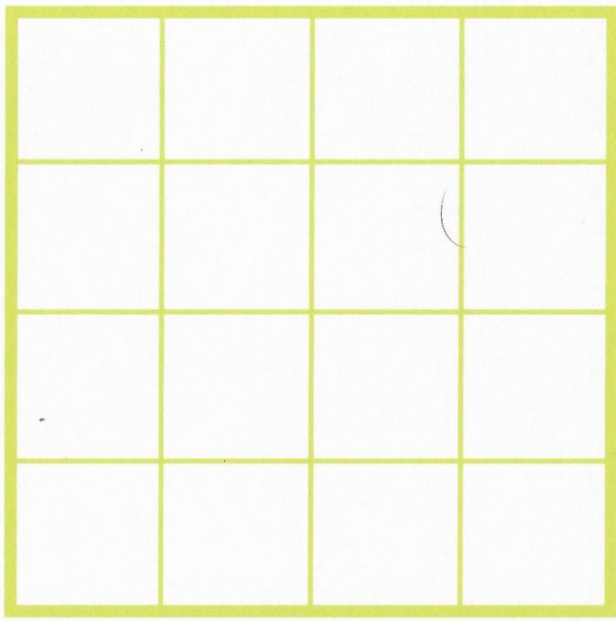
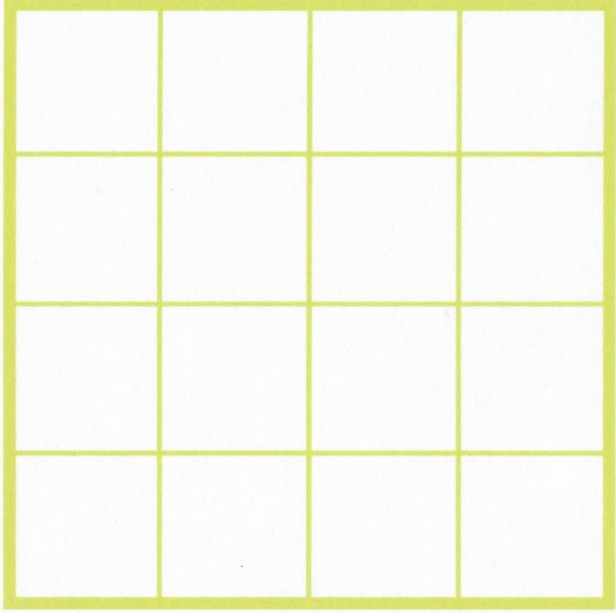
## Sample Easy to Grow Garden

(Pictured, left)

If you're new to Square Foot Gardening, here's a simple plan you can use. Be sure to check the timing for planting cool weather veggies such as lettuce.

## Garden Planning Worksheets

Plan your garden using our 1-4-9-16 spacing recommendations.



# HOW TO BUILD A BASIC SQUARE FOOT GARDEN BOX & GRID

## STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS FOR BUILDING A BASIC SQUARE FOOT GARDEN BOX

Now that you're ready to get going on your own Square Foot Garden, here are Mel's step-by-step instructions for building a basic 4' x 4' wooden box using standard tools and equipment. Understanding this construction is the first step to creating an entire garden using the Square Foot Gardening Method.

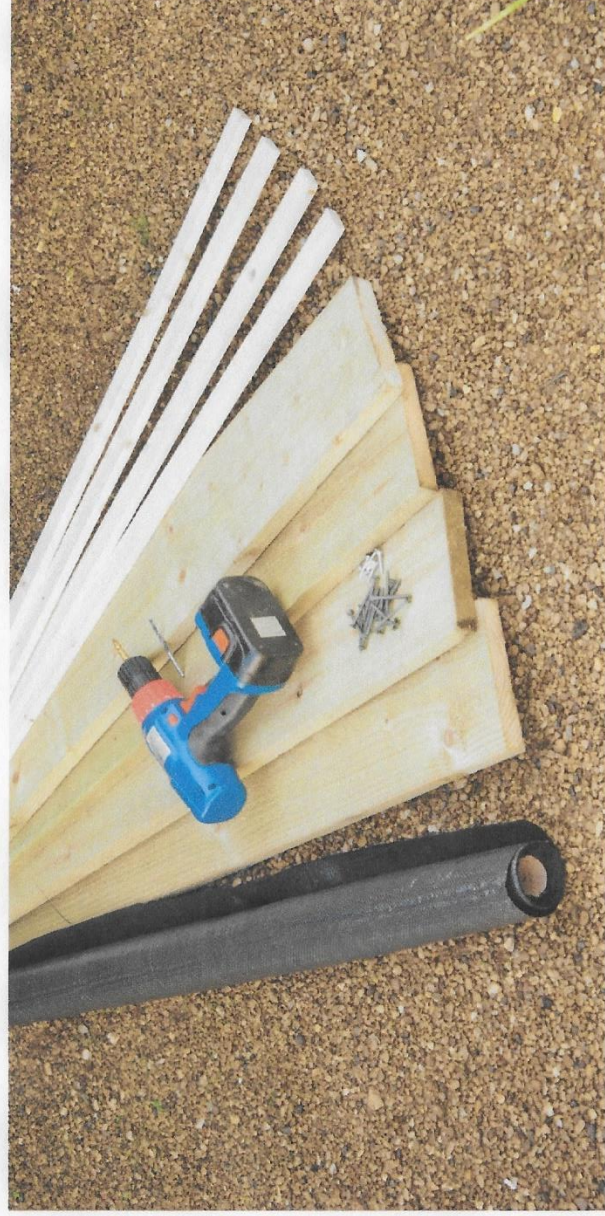
*Excerpted from All New Square Foot Gardening, 3rd Edition*

Here is the classic Square Foot Garden box that made this method famous: a simple 4' x 4' cedar planting box with butted end joints resting on a sheet of landscape fabric. It's best to build this on a flat surface, like a driveway or the floor of your garage, to ensure that it goes together flat and square.

### MATERIALS

The materials you'll need include:

- 1" x 6" x 4' (or 2" x 6" x 4') cedar lumber (4)
- Drill and bits
- 1½" or 3" deck screws
- 4' x 4' landscape fabric
- Staple gun (optional)
- Mel's Mix™ growing medium (see Chapter 7)
- Spade
- Eye and ear protection
- Work gloves



## PREPARATION



1



2



3



4

**1, 2** Stack the four side boards for the box as shown here, step fashion. Outline the butt joint on the end of each board as reference for drilling pilot holes. Drill three pilot holes in the end of each board, using a drill and 1/8" bit. Slide each board back as you finish to access the next board.

**3, 4** Position the side pieces in a square so that the pilot holes are aligned with the end grain of the adjoining board. One end of each board should overlap another board. Drive three deck screws into each joint to secure it.



5



6

**5, 6** Move the box frame to the desired location, then insert landscape fabric to fit from edge to edge. If you wish, you can staple the cloth to the bottom edge of the frame.



7



8

**7, 8** Add Mel's Mix™ to cover the bottom of the box, then add water until the Mel's Mix™ is thoroughly wet. It may take a while for the peat moss to become saturated, so be patient. Repeat in gradual stages (at least three times) until the box is full. You're now ready to add the grid and plant your garden.

## STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS FOR BUILDING A TRADITIONAL SQUARE FOOT GARDEN GRID

Once your basic Square Foot Garden box is built, you can complete your project by creating a grid to guide your planting — then add your Mel's Mix™ and you're on your way!

Excerpted from *All New Square Foot Gardening, 3rd Edition*

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The most traditional and basic of grids is created from lengths of ordinary lattice slats or plastic lathe material cut to fit across the Square Foot Garden box, then secured at the intersections with small bolts. It is a very easy thing to do.



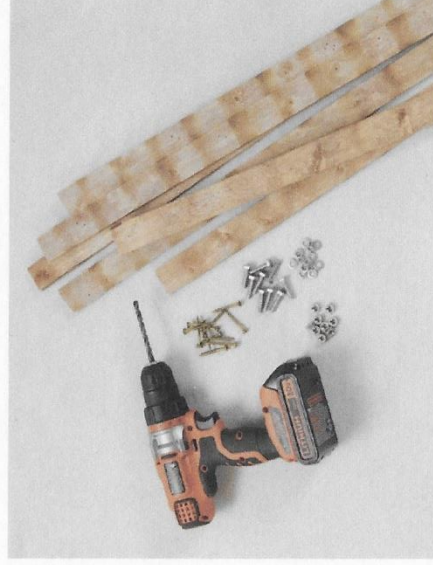
## IN MEL'S WORDS

Grids need to remain in place during the entire growing season. Remember, you're harvesting and replanting each square throughout the season. Besides that, you want to make sure everyone notices you have an authentic Square Foot Garden.

### MATERIALS

Tools and materials you will need include:

- Saw
- $\frac{1}{4}$  x  $1\frac{1}{2}$  x 50" cedar slats (6)
- Drill with  $\frac{1}{4}$ " twist bit
- $\frac{1}{4}$  x 1" bolts with washers and nuts (9)
- 1" exterior screws (12)



### ASSEMBLY

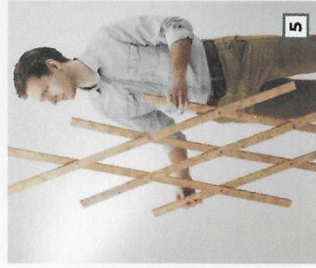


**1** Cut slat pieces to length, then position them across the top of the Square Foot Garden box so that they form grid squares that are 1 x 1' in size. Drill  $\frac{1}{4}$ " holes at the intersections of the lattice pieces.

**2** Next, secure a bolt into each hole and secure it with a washer and nut.

**3** Drill  $\frac{1}{8}$ " pilot holes at the ends of each lattice piece, down into the box sides.

**4** Secure the lattice strips to the box with screws driven down through the holes.



**5** At the end of the season, you can detach the grid from the box by removing the end screws, then collapse the grid, accordion style, to store it for winter.

**6** With grid attached, your Square Foot Garden is ready for planting.

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# CREATING MEL'S MIX™ & COMPOST

## MEL'S MIX™ MATERIALS

The magic of Square Foot Gardening is not only the space planning, but in the soil mix. These are the ingredients and quantities for Mel's Mix™, which will ensure that your Square Foot Garden thrives and produces far better than gardens grown in standard garden soil.



**1/3 COMPOST**



**1/3 PEAT MOSS**



**1/3 COARSE  
VERMICULITE**

## MEL'S MIX™ CALCULATOR CHARTS

Here are some handy charts explaining how much Mel's Mix™ you need for common SFG box sizes and explaining how many 5 gallon buckets each of peat moss, compost, and coarse vermiculite you need to make specific volumes of Mel's Mix™.

### VOLUME OF MEL'S MIX™ NEEDED

BOX DIMENSIONS	BOX VOLUME	BOX DIMENSIONS	BOX VOLUME
4 x 4 feet x 6 inches (½ foot)	8 cubic feet	4 x 4, feet x 12 inches (1 foot)	16 cubic feet
4 x 8 feet x 6 inches (½ foot)	16 cubic feet	4 x 8, feet x 12 inches (1 foot)	32 cubic feet
4 x 12 feet x 6 inches (½ foot)	24 cubic feet	4 x 12, feet x 12 inches (1 foot)	48 cubic feet
4 x 16 feet x 6 inches (½ foot)	32 cubic feet	4 x 16, feet x 12 inches (1 foot)	64 cubic feet
2 x 4 feet x 6 inches (½ foot)	4 cubic feet	2 x 4, feet x 12 inches (1 foot)	8 cubic feet
2 x 8 feet x 6 inches (½ foot)	8 cubic feet	2 x 8, feet x 12 inches (1 foot)	16 cubic feet
2 x 12 feet x 6 inches (½ foot)	12 cubic feet	2 x 12, feet x 12 inches (1 foot)	24 cubic feet
2 x 16 feet x 6 inches (½ foot)	16 cubic feet	2 x 16, feet x 12 inches (1 foot)	32 cubic feet
1 x 4 feet x 6 inches (½ foot)	2 cubic feet	1 x 4, feet x 12 inches (1 foot)	4 cubic feet
1 x 8 feet x 6 inches (½ foot)	4 cubic feet	1 x 8, feet x 12 inches (1 foot)	8 cubic feet
1 x 12 feet x 6 inches (½ foot)	6 cubic feet	1 x 12, feet x 12 inches (1 foot)	12 cubic feet
1 x 16 feet x 6 inches (½ foot)	8 cubic feet	1 x 16, feet x 12 inches (1 foot)	16 cubic feet

### 5 GALLON BUCKET RECIPE

Total Cubic Feet of Mel's Mix Needed™	# of 5 Gallon Buckets Each of Peat Moss, Coarse Vermiculite, and Compost Needed
2	1 bucket each
4	2 buckets each
6	3 buckets each
8	4 buckets each
12	6 buckets each
16	8 buckets each
24	12 buckets each
32	16 buckets each
48	24 buckets each
64	32 buckets each



## HANDY COMPOST INSTRUCTIONS

For those of you who are just getting started with composting, or for gardeners who'd love a refresher, here are some of Mel's best tips for successful composting.

TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL COMPOSTING	
Do	Don't
<b>Ingredients</b>	Do not add any animal parts such as bones or synthetic materials
<b>Bin Size</b>	Smaller than 3 x 3 feet or larger than 4 x 4 feet
<b>Moisture</b>	Too dry or too wet
<b>Mixing</b>	Never

## PRACTICAL COMPOSTING TIPS

### Mow Those Leaves

Save some of your leaves from fall to add to the compost pile next year rather than all at once. After you rake them up, run the lawnmower over them to chop them up and then stuff them into plastic bags (make sure they are dry) or, if you are a "heatnik," store them in gray garbage bins stored along the wall of your compost operation.

### Dry That Grass

If piled up, fresh green grass will quickly turn into a black-hat, anaerobic operation that's a stinking, slimy, gooey mess. Grass clippings have to be dried before adding them to the pile or stored for later addition. It does seem like an oxymoron to dry the grass clippings only to moisten them in the compost pile, but now I'm sure you can see why we do it that way.

I compare it to my mother's meatloaf. She would dry bread and then crumble it to make bread crumbs. She would then add milk to moisten everything. If she had just added moist, fresh bread, it would have gotten clumpy and gooey. The compost is similar. If material is put in wet, it packs down in clumps preventing air from entering the pile, and then it rots and smells.

So, spread your grass clippings out on a tarp or the driveway, turn them a few times with a rake or flip your tarp before storing them or adding them to your compost pile. How long? Until the grass is brownish and dry to the touch. It depends on the sun, humidity, and rain, as well as the climate of your location.

### Mix and Turn

This is a good time to remind you that the center of the pile is where most of the action is. It will be the hottest (up to 150°F or 65°C), the moistest, and with the most white-hats running around decomposing the ingredients. Knowing all that when you turn the contents of one compost bin into another, you will be putting the top of A into the bottom of B—assuming you have two bins or piles side-by-side—then you make sure you put the outside material of A into the inside of B. Get it? It's just like the theory that opposites attract. Mix in (at the same time) opposite colors, wetness, size—everything opposite for the fastest operation. In other words, brown with green, wet with dry, coarse with fine. That's all easy to remember—just think of opposites attracting, and you'll have a great operation.

*Excerpted from Square Foot Gardening, 2nd edition*

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## DO'S & DON'TS

If you're confused about what to add to your compost pile, and in what quantities, this chart will help you out. Mel compiled a detailed list of what ingredients should and should not be used in your garden — and when you have healthy, living compost, you're 1/3 of the way to creating your own Mel's Mix™!

### DETAILED LIST OF INGREDIENTS

Yes	Caution - Limited Amounts	No
<i>Each item should be under 20 percent of total by volume</i>	<i>Each item should be under 10 percent of total by volume</i>	<i>These items should not be added to a compost bin</i>
Eggshells (crushed)	Coffee grounds	Bakery products
Grass Clippings (dried)	Corn cobs	Cat or dog manure
Hay (including salt hay)	Hedge trimmings	Cheese
Leaves	Peanut shells	Dairy products
Newspaper (shredded)	Pine needles	Diseased or pest-laden materials
Old sod	Sawdust	Grease
Reject or spoiled garden produce	Shredded bark	Kitchen scraps
Stable or poultry manure	Shredded twigs	Meat or bones
Straw	Wood shavings	Seeds and fruit pits
Tea bags		Whole eggs
Vegetable and fruit peels		

*Excerpted from Square Foot Gardening, 2nd edition*

## RESOURCES

If you're having trouble locating vermiculite, you can order it online from <https://uline.com> — now it's never been easier to create your own Mel's Mix™ with all the recommended ingredients!

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For more information visit [www.squarefootgardening.org](http://www.squarefootgardening.org)

# BUILD YOUR OWN VERTICAL TRELLIS

For those twining and vining plants, Mel created a handy vertical trellis to make the most use of the available space. Use these step-by-step instructions to build your own vertical trellis in your Square Foot Garden:

*Excerpted from All New Square Foot Gardening, 3rd Edition*



## MATERIALS

The materials you'll need include:

- 90° conduit elbow fittings (2)
- 4' length of ½" steel electrical conduit (1)
- ½" steel rebar, 18" long (2)
- Hammer
- ½" steel electrical conduit, 5' long (2)
- Drill driver
- Trellis netting
- Scissors or knife
- Eye and ear protection
- Work gloves

## ASSEMBLY



**1** Attach an elbow fitting to each end of the 4'-long conduit crossbar. Lay the crossbar across the side of the Square Foot Garden box where the trellis will be installed. Drive a length of rebar into the ground at the point corresponding to the end socket on the crossbar, using a hammer. Drive each rebar about halfway into the ground. (If building an extra-strong frame, use fence posts instead of rebar.)

**2** Attach the top crossbar to the uprights by sliding the sockets of the elbows over the pipes, then securing the screws tightly.



**3** Slide the 5'-long conduit pipes over the rebar. (Or use pipe clamps to attach the pipes to fence posts.)

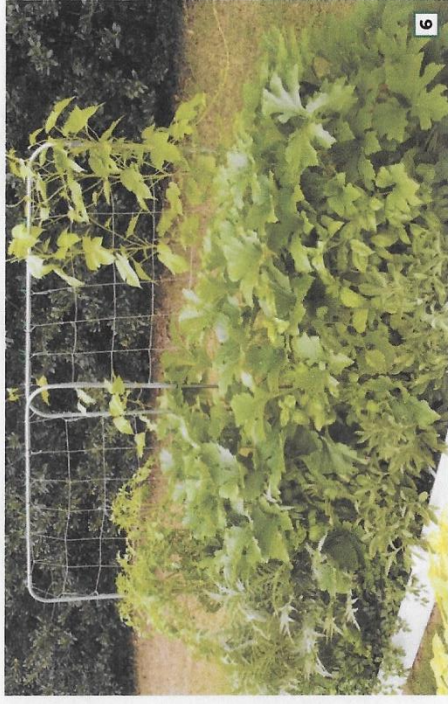
## COMPLETION



**4** Spread out the netting on a flat surface, making sure there are no snarls. Tie the netting onto the two top corners. Cut the netting at each connection along the top bar, leaving one long strand. Loop each strand over the top of the frame and tie it in a knot. Make sure to keep each strand the same length to ensure the net isn't crooked.



**5** Cut the connections down each side and repeat the tying process by securing each strand to the vertical pipe. Try to keep the length of the loops uniform to avoid making the netting crooked.



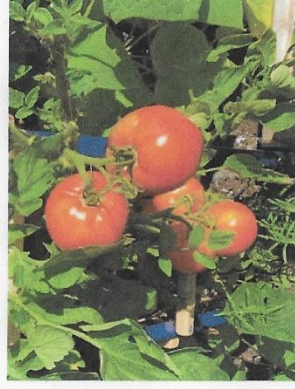
**6** This double-wide Square Foot Garden fitted with two conduit and nylon trellises is growing pole beans and tomato plants supported by the trellises, joined by sage and squash. The harvest will be amazing.

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# WARM SEASON VEGGIES, COOL SEASON VEGGIES, AND SUCCESSION PLANTING

## WARM SEASON VEGGIES

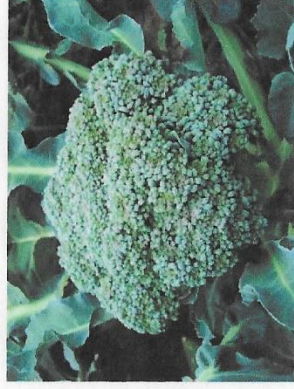
Warm season vegetables thrive when soils are warmed and temperatures are higher, with most of their edible parts coming from their fruit. These heat-loving veggies won't survive a frost, so be sure to plan your planting so that you're harvesting in plenty of time before that first frost hits.



<b>Beans</b>	<b>Celery</b>	<b>Corn</b>	<b>Cucumbers</b>
<b>Edamame</b>	<b>Eggplant</b>	<b>Okra</b>	<b>Peppers</b>
<b>Pumpkins</b>	<b>Squash</b>	<b>Sweet Potato</b>	<b>Tomatillo</b>
<b>Tomato</b>	<b>Watermelon</b>	<b>Zucchini</b>	<b>Herbs (annual)</b>

## COOL SEASON VEGGIES

Cool season vegetables are those that grow best in temperatures that are about 15 degrees cooler than temperatures preferred by warm season veggies. They have edible leaves, roots, seeds, and flowers — and most can thrive even in short periods of frost.



<b>Arugula</b>	<b>Beets</b>	<b>Broccoli</b>	<b>Brussels Sprouts</b>
<b>Cabbage</b>	<b>Collard Greens</b>	<b>Carrots</b>	<b>Cauliflower</b>
<b>Celery</b>	<b>Chard</b>	<b>Fennel</b>	<b>Kale</b>
<b>Kohlrabi</b>	<b>Lettuce</b>	<b>Mizuna</b>	<b>Mustard Greens</b>
<b>Onions</b>	<b>Pak Choi</b>	<b>Peas</b>	<b>Potatoes</b>
<b>Radishes</b>	<b>Spinach</b>		

## HOW TO SUCCESSION PLANT

Succession planting is when you stagger your plantings or plant multiple crops in the same area during your growing season — it takes a bit of pre-planning, but can pay off in the form of increased variety for a longer period of time! Here are some quick tips to get you going:

1. Choose fast-growing fruits and veggies like carrots or radishes — or plant different crops, one after the other.
2. Know each crop's number of days to harvest, as well as the length of your growing season, so you can organize your plantings.
3. Stagger plantings by planting a few more of your chosen veggie every couple of weeks, so your harvest is extended.
4. When one crop is done, pull it out and plant another.
5. Enjoy your 3-season harvest!

## RESOURCES LIST

Here's a handy list of all those links, materials, and products to keep you Square Foot Gardening with ease!

### CONTACT US

**Address:** Square Foot Gardening Foundation  
P.O. Box 2205  
Halesite NY 11743  
**Email:** [info@squarefootgardening.org](mailto:info@squarefootgardening.org)

### PRODUCTS

Add Square Foot Gardening books and products to your library and gardening inventory:

**All New Square Foot Gardening: MORE Projects - NEW Solutions - GROW Vegetables Anywhere:** 3rd Edition: <https://www.amazon.com/All-New-Square-Foot-Gardening/dp/0760362858>  
**All New Square Foot Gardening, Second Edition: The Revolutionary Way to Grow More In Less Space:** <https://www.amazon.com/All-Square-Foot-Gardening-Revolutionary/dp/1591865484>  
**Square Foot Gardening with Kids:** <https://www.amazon.com/Square-Foot-Gardening-Kids-Self-sufficiency/dp/1591865948>  
**Square Foot Gardening Answer Book:** <https://www.amazon.com/Square-Foot-Gardening-Answer-Book/dp/1591865417/>  
**Square Foot Gardening: Growing Perfect Vegetables:** <https://www.amazon.com/Square-Foot-Gardening-Vegetables-Harvesting/dp/1591866839>

**Square Foot Gardening: High Value Veggies:** <https://www.amazon.com/Square-Foot-Gardening-High-Value-Veggies/dp/1591866685>  
**3 x 3 Elevated Garden:** <https://www.sfgrrv.com/product-page/3-x-3-handicap-accessible-garden>  
**Trellises & Boxes:** Aaron's Homestead Products <https://www.aaronshomestead.com>

### SOCIAL MEDIA

Stay connected with us on your social media platforms:

**Facebook:** <https://facebook.com/squarefootgardeningorg>

**Instagram:** <https://instagram.com/squarefootgardening>

**YouTube:** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPntGRV9xW3bCQLKCVFBAQ>

**Website:** <https://squarefootgardening.org>

**Square Foot Gardening Forum:** <http://squarefoot.forumotion.com>

### MATERIALS

The right materials are key to a successful Square Foot Garden — here are links to recommended and sometimes hard-to-find resources!

**Vermiculite for Mel's Mix™:** <https://www.uline.com> <https://palmettovermiculite.com> (for information and bulk purchases)

**Seeds:** <https://theseedguy.net> <https://www.johnnyseeds.com> <https://www.southernexposure.com>

<https://www.heirloomseeds.com> <https://www.seedsavers.org>

### MISCELLANEOUS

Here's a list of other important resources to keep you in the know and on track:

**Newsletters:** <https://squarefootgardening.org/about-us/newsletter>

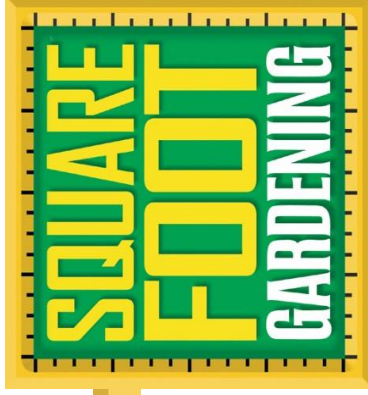
**Find a Certified Instructor near you:** <https://squarefootgardening.org/get-involved/find-a-certified-instructor>

**Certified Instructor Level 2 Course:** <https://squarefootgardening.org/2018/05/become-a-certified-instructor>

**Find your county extension office:** <https://nifa.usda.gov/land-grant-colleges-and-universities-partner-website-directory>

**Find your USDA Hardiness Zone with an interactive map:** <https://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/PHZMWeb/InteractiveMap.aspx>






# Where to Obtain Vermiculite

Coarse (or super coarse) vermiculite is usually the challenging Mel's Mix™ ingredient to source. Worry not! We've got you covered.

As of 20th of February 2024, here's where you can find the right stuff:

- Greenhouse Megastore (**Coarse** and **Super Coarse**) — free shipping on U.S. orders of \$149.
- Uline — **Grade 4** No free shipping & must order 2 bags minimum (share with a friend!).

 **Farmtek** — shipping costs are based on weight. On sale now!


 **AM Leonard's** — Grade A3. Free shipping on order of \$99+ with

**Promo Code: FEB24P4 Expires: 2/29/24. Check out more promo codes.**

 Gardener's Edge — **Grade 4**. Free shipping on order of \$75+ with

**Promo Code: FEB24G4 Expires: 2/29/24. Check out more promo codes.**

 **VMInnovations** — Grade A3. Free shipping inside the 48 continental United States.

 If you live in Georgia, North Carolina, Maryland or Tennessee and you need ingredients in bulk, check out **Seven Springs Farm Supply** cooperative purchasing partners.

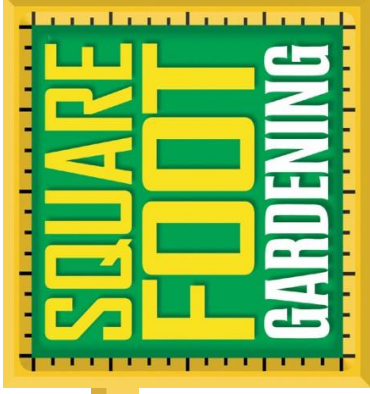
# Where to Obtain Peat Moss

Another important ingredient of Mel's Mix™ that can be difficult to find is peat moss.

- 🌿 **Lowe's** — store pickup available & sold in 3 cubic feet units.
- 🌿 **AM Leonard's** — free shipping on order of \$99+ with **Promo Code: FEB24P4 Expires: 2/29/24.**
- 🌿 **Tractor Supply** — free standard delivery to your local TSC store when spending \$29 or more.
- 🌿 **Greenhouse Megastore** — free shipping on U.S. orders of \$149.

**You can also ask your local nursery to order your coarse vermiculite and peat moss for you.** It's always a good idea to support your local gardening businesses.





## **Consultations & Services Available by Appointment for Your SFG**

- **SFG Planning**
- **Box & Grid Assembly**
- **Filling**

**Please Contact Me for Assistance**



# Program Evaluation

Please take some time to rate both the program and the speaker. Your feedback will help improve this presentation for the future and is most appreciated.

**For the following topics, please provide a grade between A and F.**

1. Did the presentation meet your expectations? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Did you find the presentation interesting? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Was the material presented at a reasonable level? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Did the material flow together in a meaningful way? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Was the speaker interesting to listen to? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Was the speaker understandable? \_\_\_\_\_

Please add any other comments or suggestions you may have for this presentation or speaker.