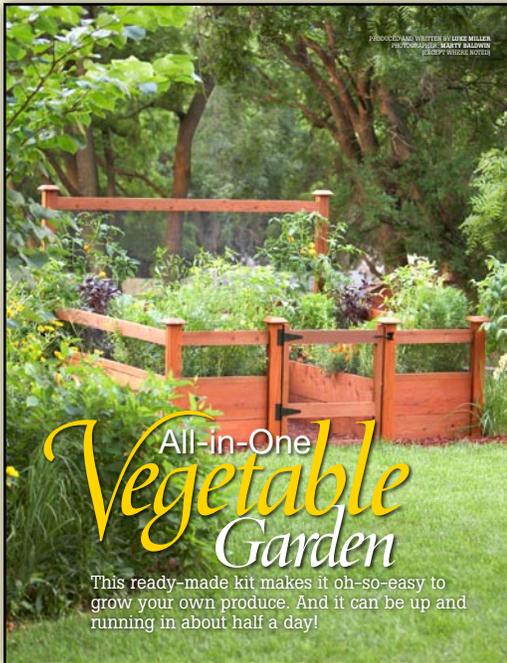


Watch for a feature about the Gardens to Gro kit in Garden Ideas & Outdoor Living® magazine, on sale March 17.



Whether you're a gourmet cook, health-food fanatic, or harried mother of four trying to lower the grocery bill while putting something nutritious on the table, homegrown vegetables make more sense than ever. It's like having your cake and eating it too—only this "cake" is a tasty produce.

If you're blessed with a lot of space, you can grow your vegetable garden. One exception is soil. Another is a site that's not too shady or too hot. A third is a substance impeding some plants. Planting solves both problems.

Many gardeners prefer raised beds for other reasons, too. They're easy to access, and the custom soil mix suited to the plants is a bonus. Raised beds also warm up faster in the spring, so you can start your season early and help thwart weeds and other pests.

BENEFITS OF HOMEGROWN

- They're easy to grow and easy to harvest. A raised bed is a great way to grow vegetables in a small space.
- They're easy to access, and the custom soil mix suited to the plants is a bonus.
- Raised beds also warm up faster in the spring, so you can start your season early and help thwart weeds and other pests.

ADVICE AND TIPS:

- Choose a site that's not too shady or too hot.
- Use a soil mix that's suited to the plants you're growing.
- Water regularly, and use mulch to help retain moisture.

...won't want to hide it in the backyard. And it's adaptable. Note the heavy-duty gate and the built-in handles for easy access. Then consider the 20-inch-tall beds will cut down on bending. For the best results, there's even a labor-saving automatic irrigation system, complete with water hose.

We found that the kit went together quickly and easily. It took us well under a day, and we started for potatoes. And with a number of available sizes (6x4 feet, 6x6 feet, 6x12 feet, 8x12 feet), materials included and priced (from \$499-\$3,100), plenty of options.

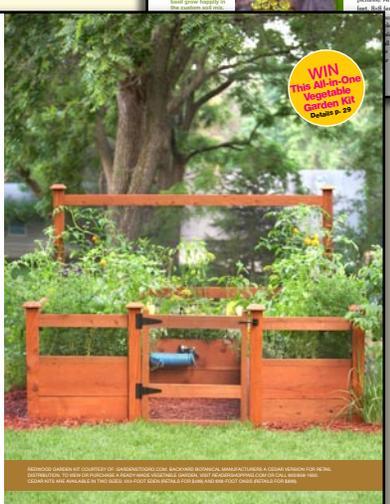
Using us we show how to assemble and fill your vegetable garden that will get you started growing a bounty of healthy, delicious food.



GETTING STARTED

This raised bed vegetable garden kit goes together in just a few hours. Line up a helping hand to hold things together during assembly, and you're ready to go.

- Step 1:** Place the kit in a sunny spot outdoors on the ground. Check hardware placement with a level. Use string to layout for any steps.
- Step 2:** Prepare the base. After marking the location with string, use a shovel to create a flat base for the kit. Then apply the base string to layout for any steps.
- Step 3:** Take a power drill to connect baseboards to the corner joints.
- Step 4:** Once all baseboards are attached, set baseboards in place and attach with the wood screws provided.
- Step 5:** Attach the optional wheels to the bottom of the kit. An extra set of wheels is included to hold the kit during assembly.
- Step 6:** Lay the bed with the heavy plastic. Plug tightly to discourage leaching water. Choose a top 6 inches of good soil and green fertilizer.
- Step 7:** Fill the bed with soil. Use a shovel to mix soil, compost, potting mix, and fertilizer. Use a rake to level the soil and to remove any clumps.
- Step 8:** Spread soil, such as compost, over the bed. Then plant your choice of vegetables and herbs. Place labels provided by the kit and to complete the garden.



Spring issue on newsstands: **March 17**