

How to Build a Basic Raised Garden Bed



Materials & tools

Materials

- Twelve 1" x 12" x 8' for bed sides
- Twelve 1" x 12" x 4' for bed ends
- Twenty Four 2" x 4" x 1' for posts
- Screws

Tools

- Drill
- Measuring Tape

Note: Disregard the extra height of each post you see in these photos, as our beds use posts that are flush with the height of the bed



Frame

Working on a flat surface set a 1" x 12" x 4' board on its narrow side edge; at one end of the board, place a 2" x 4" x 1' post upright and flush with the end of the board. Use two adjustable woodworking clamps—or a buddy—to keep both pieces of wood flush on the sides and bottom.



Drill to attach

Before securing the post to the 4-foot board, help prevent the wood from splitting by predrilling two to three evenly spaced holes in the board. Then secure the board to the post with two to three screws. (Once the board is secured to the post, you can remove the woodworking clamps if using.)



Repeat to complete

Now that you've got the previous step's post-adding technique down, repeat that technique to attach a corner post to the other end of the 4-foot board. Then grab the remaining 4-foot board and attach a corner post to each end.

You now have the two 4-foot ends of your raised bed and are ready to attach the bed's longer sides: Position the first of your 1" x 12" x 8' side boards between your two 4-foot bed ends. Make sure the 8-foot board is flush with each corner post (hold them steady with the woodworking clamps—or grab that buddy again), then predrill each board end with two to three holes and secure it to a post with two to three screws. Repeat to attach the remaining 8-foot side board to the awaiting corner posts.

Your rectangular bed is now complete!

