

BLOOM BOX

Preparing Your Garden without Chemicals

Preparing a new garden for planting takes 2-4 weeks, plan to start early and

If you are not ready to plant when your Bloom Box is delivered, keep your

plants in a shady area outside and water them daily until you plant.



This gardener is using a hose to make an outline.

Things You'll Need
Rope, hose or spray

REMEMBER...

- Rope, hose or spray paint (for marking)
- Newspaper (10 layers) or Cardboard (1 layer)
- Sharp shovel or sod cutter (for converting a lawn)

give yourself time to work before your plants arrive.

- Shovel or rake
- Compost or topsoil (or both), 2-4 inches
- Mulch; 1-2 inches of undyed woodchips or 2-3 inches of weed free straw.

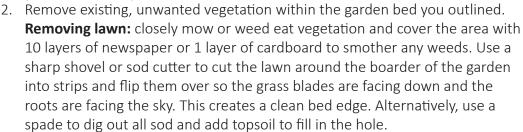


Layers of cardboard or newspaper can prevent weeds without chemicals.

Step One: Outline Your Bed

1. Make a general outline of your garden bed using rope, hose or spray paint. Broad, sweeping curves of different sizes work better than squiggly ones.

Step Two: Kill any Weeds





Adding compost improves the health of the soil.

Step Three: Add Compost

3. Spread 2-4 inches of compost on top of the newspaper or cardboard. If it will be a few weeks before you plant, cover this with 1-2 inches of undyed woodchips or 2-3 inches of clean straw or grass clippings to keep weeds out and enrich the soil.

NOTE: compost is used to improve soil health, topsoil is used to raise the grade (ground level) or fill holes. Compost continues to decompose and only temporarily raises the level of the garden bed. Compost = food, topsoil = garden base.

