



A Successful Kitchen Garden Guide

www.cienerbotanicalgarden.org

Exposure

- Up to 6 hours or more of mid-afternoon sun is ideal for most fruit bearing crops
- 3-4 hours of afternoon sun is ideal for leafy crops

Soils

- Good drainage is key, add Permatil® (a baked slate rock aggregate that aids in drainage and is great for seedling root penetration)
- A raised bed of 6” or more is ideal to aid in drainage as well
- Add compost or organic matter to existing soils
- If grown in containers, create a mix of potting soil, compost, Permatil® and topsoil
- Fertilize with Espoma®, Organic Garden-Tone for Vegetables

Water

- Hand water or irrigate 2x per week at a rate of a 1” (weather permitting)

plants	#/sq ft	plants	#/sq ft	plants	#/sq ft
basil	4	cucumbers	2	green onions	16
bush beans	9	dill	1	parsnips	16
pole beans	8	eggplant	1	peas	8
beets	9	garlic	6	peppers	1
broccoli	1	kale/cabbage	1	potatoes	1
Brussel sprouts	1	kohlrabi	4	radishes	16
carrots	16	leeks	6	rutabagas	4
cauliflower	1	lettuce	3	spinach	9
celery	1	marigolds	2	summer squash/zucchini	1
chives	9	mustard greens	16	Swiss chard	4
cilantro	9	okra	1	tomatoes	1
collard greens	1	onions	6	turnips	9

The concept of a square foot garden began in the 1980’s to assist gardeners with planning and creating a small, often raised, vegetable garden. By taking a plot of land and sectioning the plot into 1 foot squares, gardeners can identify how many plants or how many seeds are needed to place within the squares. The number of plants per square depends on the size of the plant at maturity. Smaller plants should be placed on the south or front side of the bed and taller or vining plants should be placed in the back to prevent shading. Another concept is to create a companion garden such as marigolds dispersed throughout to repel insects and small critters.