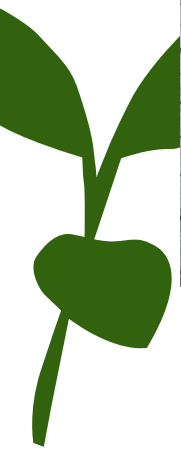




Cal Poly Pomona Gardening Guide



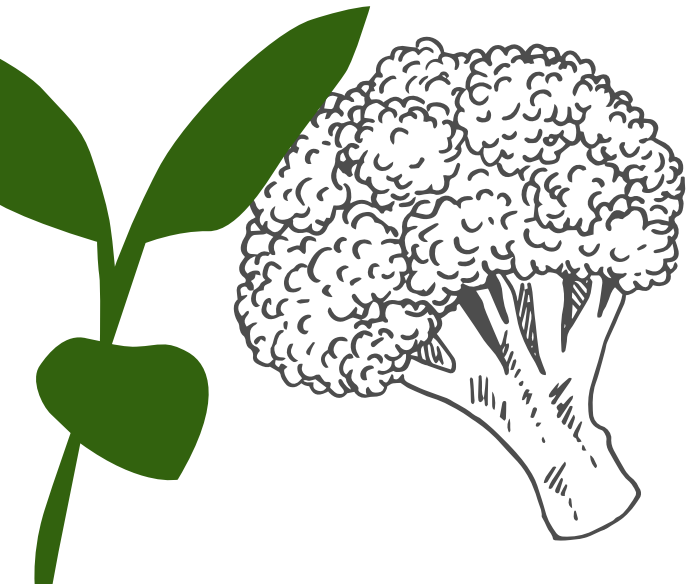
Starting, Growing, and Maintaining Garden Beds on Campus





Introduction

Starting a Garden not only empowers individuals with a sustainable food source but also provides mental and physical benefits from being around nature. However, it involves a lot of research and patience but with the right tools and mindset, you can grow your own little oasis on Cal Poly soil. This booklet will act as a guide with tips and pointers on how to begin your gardening journey today.





Getting Started

Step 1: Reserve your Garden Bed

Visit the Housing Office to find out which garden beds are available to plant in. Each garden bed requires a deposit of \$50 to reserve the garden bed.

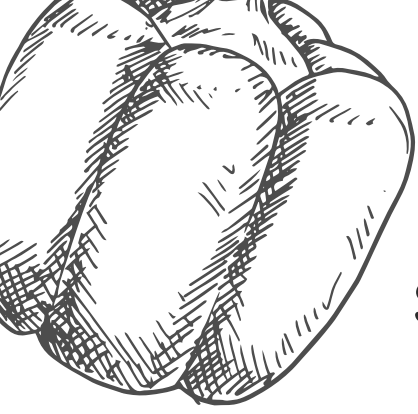
**This deposit is forfeited if the garden bed is not maintained throughout the semester.*

Step 2: Planning

The key to any successful garden bed is planning. Things you need to consider when planning your garden are what plants should go together? How much space do they need to grow? What are the water and sunlight requirements of each plant? What tools and resources are available to me?

All the answers to these questions will be addressed in this booklet.

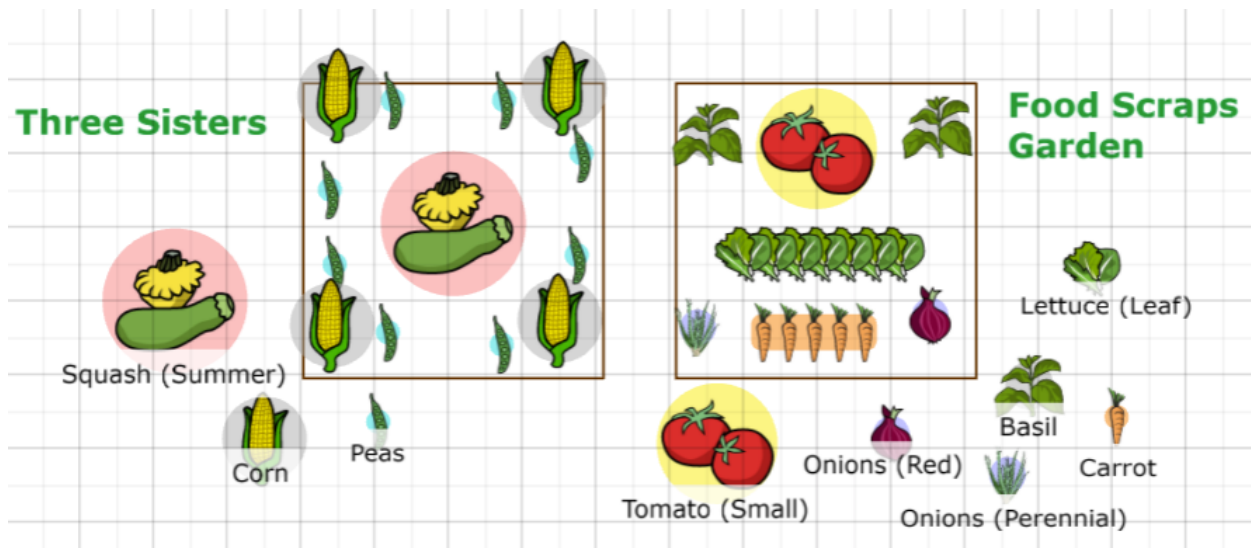




Step 3: Sectioning your Garden Bed

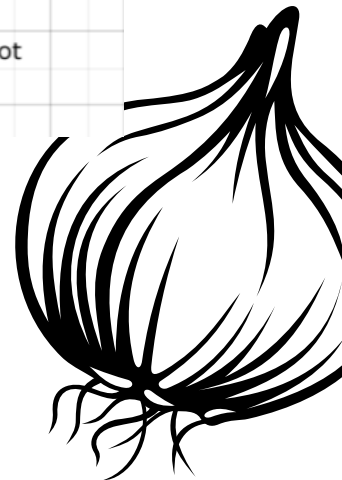
Sectioning off gardening beds into squares is highly recommended as an easy and organized way to manage your vegetables, fruits, and herbs. By researching in the planning phase you will know how much space each plant needs in order to space them correctly in the squares.

Below is an example of how certain plants would ideally fit together on a 4x4 gardening bed.

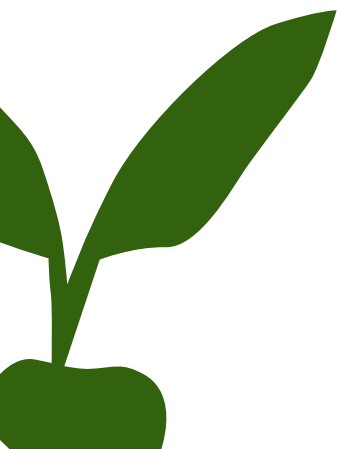


Plan your own garden bed using the Garden Planner at www.growveg.com/

Grouping certain vegetables and herbs together is known as Companion Cropping. A great example used by indigenous tribes in the southwest is the Three Sisters, Another option is to grow your garden from food scraps. When cut correct and placed in water, many plants can be regrown and used to start a garden.



Most gardening beds require 6-8 hours of direct sunlight to be healthy. Remember to meet each plant's watering requirements and nutritional needs to grow a successful garden.



Companion and Scrap Planting

Companion Planting

There are many different benefits to companion planting. Doing so will naturally lessen the reliance on pesticides, enrich the flavor of produce, and increase biodiversity and aesthetic appeal on campus. It is also important to consider what makes a plant pair or group companion planting. Often times this includes when a sturdier plant protects a more delicate plant, when certain plants are utilized to increase pollination, plants that manage pest control (whether that be luring or repelling them), and plants that enrich the soil.



Scrap Planting

Scrap planting is an effective and sustainable way for anyone (especially college students) to save money on their produce with very little effort. Many produce waste can be replanted if one saves the necessary parts and follows the necessary steps to regrow their fruits, vegetables, and herbs.





Companion and Scrap Planting (cont.)

Companion Planting

Common produce and their companions:

- Tomatoes: Provides shade for heat-sensitive plants and produces solanine
 - Is often paired with basil, carrots, asparagus, celery, and parsley
- Onions: Repels flies and other pests
 - Is often paired with carrots, cabbage, lettuce, parsnips, and tomatoes
- Corn: Cornstalks provide trellis for vining or trailing plants
 - Is often paired with cucumbers, peas, pumpkins, melons, and squash
- Carrots: Aerate the soil around most plants' roots
 - Is often paired with tomatoes, leeks, rosemary, sage, and chives



Scrap Planting

Common produce that regrow from scraps:

- Potatoes: Dry potato eyes overnight then plant them 4-5 inches deep into a pot or your garden bed, They will grow in a few weeks.
- Celery: Leave the base in warm water in the sun. New stalks will form in a week. Once the leaves on the stalks have thickened, replant them.
- Garlic: Replant one clove with the roots facing down. Keep in direct sunlight and trim the shoots until a full bulb is formed.





Tools and Resources on Campus

There are a wide variety of tools and resources on campus that are available to students. This page will tell you how to access and utilize them.

Fixed resources:

- Water hose: There will be a water hose to utilize for any garden bed on campus. You may use it freely at any time of the day.
- Compost bins: There will be one compost bin per group of 10 garden beds. Please only fill and utilize your designated bin. Students will be in charge of filling their own group's bin.



Tools:

- There will be a variety of tools to utilize. If you wish to borrow a tool, you can check out one at a time at the Housing Office. There you will sign which tool you are borrowing and give the staff your student ID for them to hold until you return the tool.

Tools available to students for rent include:

- Garden Spade/Shovels
- Hand-held Spades
- Hand-held Rakes
- Cultivators
- Bypass Loppers
- Garden Snips
- Pruners

