



HOW MUCH FOOD

CAN BE GROWN IN TWO 4 × 8 GARDEN BEDS?

A single 4 ft × 8 ft raised garden bed provides plenty of space to grow a wide variety of edible plants.

You can easily cultivate leafy greens such as lettuce, spinach, and kale. These crops mature quickly and can be harvested continuously throughout the growing season. Root vegetables like carrots, beets, and radishes also thrive in raised beds and require very little space per plant.

If you prefer larger crops, bush beans, peas, and compact tomato varieties (determinate types) are excellent options. Herbs (including basil, parsley, chives, and cilantro) can be planted along the edges to maximize growing space.

In sunny locations, consider growing bell peppers or cucumbers on trellises to save ground space. For diversity, a zucchini or summer squash plant can be added, provided it has room to spread.

When your garden bed has well-drained soil and receives at least six hours of sunlight daily, you can expect a productive harvest from spring through fall. Succession planting and intercropping further increase yields and extend the harvest season.

BED ONE

TOMATOES

1 Cherry Tomato Plant

- 100–300 tomatoes
- Approximately 5–12 lbs
- Peak production: up to 50 tomatoes per day

3 Medium Indeterminate Tomato Plants

- Produce continuously all season
- 20–90 tomatoes total
- Approximately 10–30 lbs

RADISHES

3 rows (4 ft each)

- 48–64 radishes every 2–3 weeks
- Over 500 radishes per season

SNAP PEAS (TRELLISED)

2 rows (4 ft each, both sides of trellis)

- 40–60 plants total
- 10–15 pods per plant
- 500–700 pods per trellis
- 4–7 peas per pod

Estimated total: at least 2,500 peas

LEAFY GREENS

2 rows mixed greens

- 32–48 lettuce plants = 4–8 lbs
- Hundreds of spinach plants = 5–10 lbs

Succession planting every 3 weeks or using “cut-and-come-again” harvesting can **double total yield**.

BED TWO

BUSH BEANS

6 clusters (3 seeds per cluster)

- 15–25 beans per plant
- 45–75 beans per cluster
- 270–450 beans initially

Harvest daily and replant every two weeks for continuous production.

SWEET BELL PEPPERS

6 plants

- 5–10 large peppers per plant
- OR Up to 30 smaller peppers per plant

Estimated harvest

- Large varieties: 30–60 peppers
- Small varieties: up to 180 peppers

CUCUMBERS

6 plants

- 7–10 cucumbers per plant over ~3 weeks
- 42–60 cucumbers per planting

Stagger planting for extended harvest:

- 84–120+ cucumbers per season

Important: Leaving cucumbers to turn yellow signals the plant to stop producing.

BEETS

2 rows (4 ft each)

- 48–64 medium beets per planting
- Each seed produces 2–6 plants (thin to 3–4 inches apart)

Succession planting every 3 weeks:

- Estimated 250–350 beets per season

HERBS

INTERESTED IN GROWING HERBS?

Basil, thyme, rosemary, chives, parsley, and cilantro can be planted along edges and corners.

Harvest period: April – November

Provides continual small harvests throughout the season. All herbs other than basil and rosemary are perennial and will return every year.

FINAL THOUGHTS

AFTER DOING THE MATH...

Two small raised beds can produce:

- Hundreds of tomatoes
- Thousands of peas and beans
- Continuous leafy greens
- Dozens of peppers and cucumbers
- Hundreds of root vegetables
- Fresh herbs for months

Doesn't it make sense to grow some of your own food?

THESE ARE ESTIMATES

Actual production depends on growing conditions such as sunlight, soil health, watering, pruning, weeding, and trellising, so remember:

LOVE YOUR GARDEN

Prepare a planting plan with your garden team and include succession planting.