

GROWING HERBS IN YOUR GARDEN

DESIGN AND PLANNING:

First decide what style or kind of herb garden that you are interested in growing.

- *Know your herbs; invest in a good resource book on herbs
- *An herb garden for tea's
- *A Mediterranean garden
- *An herb garden for making plant dyes.
- *An herb garden for medicinal reasons; Herbs for the skin, Stomach herbs, Immune or strength building herb garden or maybe an herb garden that has a Spiritual theme. Also, consider planting herbs into your existing perennial gardens.

You will need to do a site survey. Ask yourself these questions?

*How much light will this garden receive, and how much light at different times of the year.

*What kind of soil do I have? Is it clay or sandy? What is my PH? What has been growing there? The answers to these questions will help you determine which herbs you can grow.

Will your pets or the neighbor's pets have access to your garden as a litter box? If so you will need to create a barrier if you intend on using these herbs.

Start with improving the soil. Based on what you learn about your soil it is always under most circumstances a good idea to add compost to your garden.

*A few words on making your own compost and wormerys'
Work the compost into your soil and prepare to plant.

- *Harden off your plants
- *Plant selection, healthy, organic

There are a wide variety of herbs to choose from; perennial herbs, annual herbs and tender perennial herbs. Some herbs can be a bit of a nuisance if they get away from you. Mint and herbs in the mint family can spread quickly and spread every where. Feverfew, Blue Vervain, Lemon Balm (mint) and Monarda (mint) can also spread very easily. Remember to remove seed

heads if you do not want them to spread all over. St Johns Wort spreads underground and above ground by roots and so does most of the mint so you will have to contain them in a pot planted above ground.

Water your plants based on plant needs and your soil conditions.

There are different water requirements at different times of the year.

Fertilizer needs: I usually find that fish emulsion is a great fertilizer for most herbs. Mile Hi Rose Food and Sea Kelp. I also use the worm tea from my wormery

Pests in the herb garden.

Most of the time a strong jet of water will knock most of them off. A combination of insecticidal soap and water will also work on most bugs, but you have to be careful what time of day you apply them.

Harvest and enjoy!

Resources:

[Growing 101 Medicinal Herbs By Tammy Hartung](#)

[Bountiful Container By McGee & Stuckey](#)