



# Mason Garden & Greenhouse

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About fourteen years ago this project started as a four-foot by four-foot raised bed garden. My daughter, Sabrina, was home from college and needed something to occupy her time after work, so she started digging. She had seen my old copy of Mel Bartholomew's book *Square Foot Gardening* and decided that was what we needed. It all grew from that tiny beginning.

Over the next few years, more beds were added until it included two 2'x29' raised beds and a 4'x22' raised bed. As many of you know, dealing with wildlife can be a constant struggle for gardeners here in Campbell County. My main problem was dealing with deer and rabbits. I first tried several home remedies to keep the garden safe. None of them were effective for very long. I next tried plastic deer fencing. While that was effective, it became clear that was not a long-term answer.

I started searching the internet for a better solution. I soon stumbled on to cattle panel greenhouses. Most of them were not big enough to enclose my garden. I next looked at manufactured greenhouses. While these looked great, I did not want to spend thousands of dollars to protect my vegetables. My solution was the garden/greenhouse you see here today.

This greenhouse uses four relatively inexpensive and readily available materials. It can be constructed using T-posts, cattle panels, treated lumber, and greenhouse plastic. The size is flexible. It is fourteen feet wide by any length you want it to be in fifty-inch increments and is seven and a half feet tall. I put the greenhouse plastic on in the fall and take it off in the spring. Oh, and I had to add chicken wire to the bottom to keep the rabbits out!