

**Potting Soil** Plants can be directly planted into potting soil. For use in pots and grow boxes.

**Berger BM1 All-Purpose**  
3.8 Cubic Feet compressed (expands to 7.8 cubic feet)  
Contents: long-fiber peat moss, perlite, and vermiculite. No fertilizer incorporated.



**Black Gold Potting Soil**  
1 Cubic Foot 2 Cubic Feet  
Contents: controlled release fertilizer, peat moss, perlite, and other organic matter.



**Miracle-Gro Potting Mix**  
16 Dry Quarts 1 Cubic Foot 2 Cubic Feet  
Contents: plant mulch, top soil, sand, wood dust, manure and fertilizer. Feeds up to 6 months.



**Volcanic Potting Soil**  
1.5 Cubic Feet  
Contents: 75% Ultra Premium Canadian Organic Peat & 25% Crushed Volcanic Mineral. No fertilizer incorporated.



**What to use in a pot?**

- Use potting soil. Plants can be directly planted into potting soil.

Never use straight mulch or manure to plant into. They can be added as a supplement, however.

**What should I use for my Growbox mix?**

- For starting a 4' x 4' x 6" deep growbox:
  - 1 bag *BM1 potting soil* (3.8 cubic ft)
  - 1 bag *Nutri-Mulch* (2 cubic ft)
  - 1 bag *Miracle Gro Garden Soil* (2 cubic ft)

To replenish the growbox each year add one bag *Nutri-Mulch* (2 cubic ft bag).

**How do I break down my clay soil?**

- The best method is to add plenty of organic matter, such as mulch or peat moss.
- Nutri-Mulch* works really well to help break down the clay.
- In our area, adding sand to the clay soil is not efficient. It would take too much sand to do any good.

**How much mulch/compost to mix?**

- For planting a tree/shrub: mix 1/3 mulch with 2/3 existing dirt. Use this mixture to backfill the hole where tree/shrub is being planted.
- When planting a garden: apply 1-2" of mulch on the ground surface and till to the depth of 4-8".
- To cut down on weeds: Place 1-2" of mulch on top of ground surface. Don't mix in the mulch until after the growing season.

Refer to individual bags for more details.

**What to mix into your garden and when?**

- In the fall, till in steer manure (1 cubic feet to 50 square feet).
- In the spring/summer before planting garden, till in mulch (2 cubic feet to every 40 square feet).

**How much manure will make the soil too hot?**

- The high salt content of manure will burn the plants if manure/dirt ratio is not correct.
- The amount of manure needed will vary due to the animal it comes from. Steer manure has one of the lowest potency, whereas horse manure has a very high salt content.
- We recommend never using more than a 2 cubic foot bag of manure to a 50 square foot area.

- Manure is high in nitrogen, thus helping plants grow more green foliage.

**Difference between steer manure and mulch?**

- Mulch is mostly made up of decomposed wood chips and the main component of steer manure is byproducts from cows.

**How is mulch composted?**

- Mulch is a combination of twigs, grass clippings, saw dust, and has been put into a large pile to decompose for a few months. This process allows the ingredients to decompose (turning it into compost) which makes it so the plant can obtain the nutrients from the compost. This pile gets very hot which will kill any weed seeds in it. If doing composting at home, one must add nitrogen to help aid the process of breaking down the wood particles.

**Can I just add my grass clippings to the garden and be okay?**

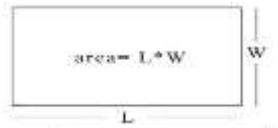
- If allowed to decompose before adding to the garden, the grass clippings will be fine.
- If grass clippings are poured directly to the garden, nitrogen will be robbed from the ground to help in its decomposition process. Therefore, if this is done, a nitrogen supplement must be added to the garden.

**How does Peat Moss affect the PH level in my soil?**

- Peat Moss has a high PH acidity level. This is recommended for planting blueberries directly into.
- If peat moss is tilled into the soil, the PH of the soil will stay pretty close to the same. The benefit of adding peat moss to the garden is that it helps break down clay soil and /or to add nutrients back into the soil.

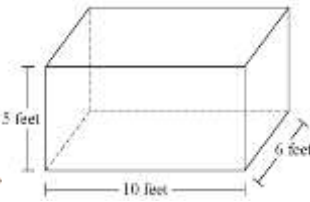
**How to calculate square footage?**

- Foot length x foot width = total square feet

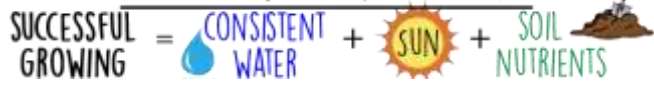


**How to calculate cubic feet?**

- Ft length x ft width x foot height = total cubic feet
- 5'x10'x6' = 300 cubic feet



**PLANT QUALITY FACTORS**



**Soil Enhancers** All soil enhancers must be mixed into soil.

**Nutri-Mulch**  
2 cubic feet  
Coverage: 1 bag covers 40 sq ft. Mix in with soil.  
Tree/Shrub Planting: Mix in a 25-33% ratio with backfill dirt to be placed around the roots.



**Miller's Composted Steer Manure**  
1 cubic feet  
Coverage: 1 bag covers 50 sq ft. Use in flower beds and garden area. Will add nitrogen. Use in planting lawn by covering grass seed with 1/4" top dressing.



**Miracle-Gro Garden Soil**  
2 cubic feet  
Coverage: 1 bag covers 20 sq ft. Use with existing soil. Feeds up to 3 months. Mix in with soil.



**Berger Peat Moss**  
2.2 cubic feet 3.8 cubic feet  
Helps with water retention. Reduces the need for watering. Provides the best foundation for root and plant development. Mix into soil.



**Miller's Mushroom Compost**  
1 cubic feet  
Coverage: 1 bag covers 20 sq ft. Mix in with soil.



**Located Inside**

<b>Perlite</b> 2 cubic feet Makes soil light and fluffy to help get air to the roots	<b>Vermiculite</b> 2 cubic feet Helps with water retention in soil
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\*Products enlarged to show detail