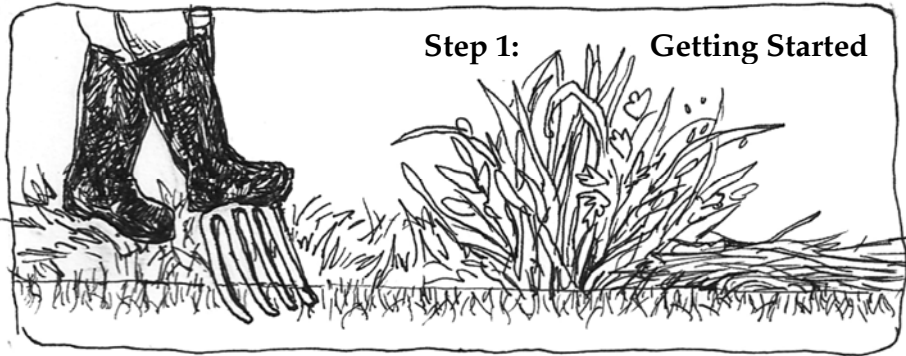


NO-DIG GARDEN

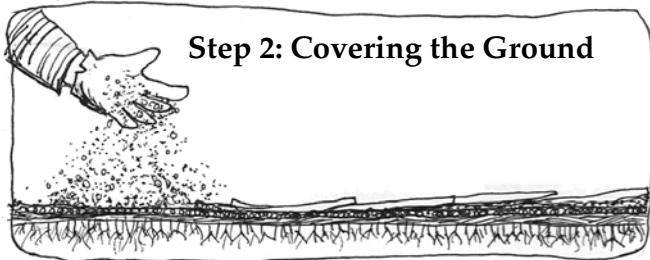
A bed built in layers, directly on the ground. Not using the existing soil but creating it anew from the materials you introduce. Ideal for using with compact & clay soils – even concrete!

YOU WILL NEED

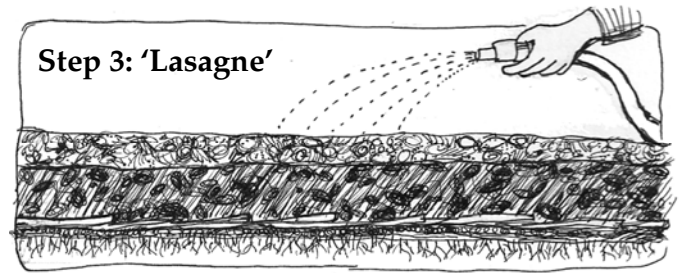
- a fork
- **organic fertiliser** (for 1st layer) eg blood & bone, seaweed meal, lime, broken down animal manure
- **flattened cardboard boxes** (remove tape) or non glossy newspaper.
- **for CARBON (dry) layers:** straw, hay, old sawdust, dead leaves, shredded paper, old fine bark
- **for NITROGEN (moist) layers:** food scraps, fresher manures, weeds (non invasive types), fresh grass clippings, other plant material.
- **water** for wetting cardboard and spraying dry layers
- **compost and topsoil** (if planting in immediately)



Clear the surface ground you want to make your garden on. No digging is necessary at all. If there are weeds, simply slash them down and lay them evenly over the area to be worked on. Leave their roots in the soil (food for earthworms!). Rock back & forth on your fork to open up airspaces in the soil. Don't turn the soil over.

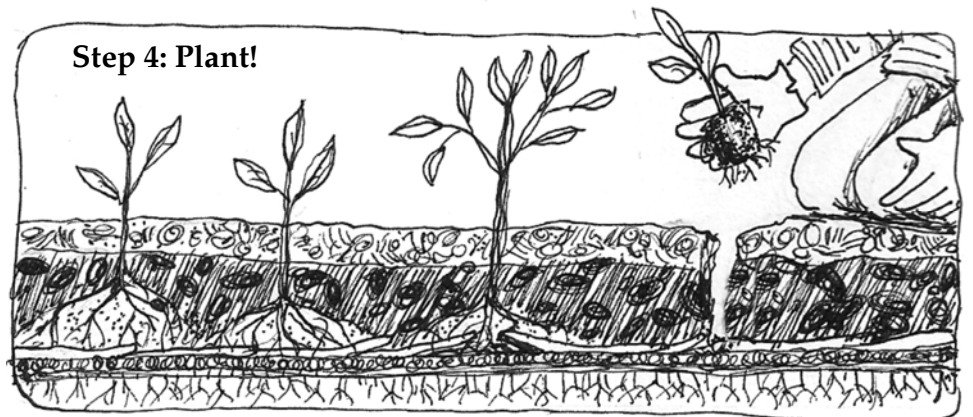


Apply a sprinkling of organic fertilizer. Wet your newspaper or cardboard (soaking in a wheelbarrow works well). Overlap cardboard or newspaper 'wads' approximately one hand-length on top of neighbouring ones. If using newspaper instead of cardboard, put each 'wad' 7 layers thick.



Alternate carbon & nitrogen layers to at least 30cm high. Carbon (= 'dry brown'), then Nitrogen (= 'moist green, moist brown or moist multi-colour', ie food scraps), and then Carbon again, and so on.

NB: Use food scraps near the bottom. Don't use meat - too slow to break down and too attractive for dogs to dig up!



If planting immediately into the bed, create 'wells' for seedlings, and 'furrows' for seeds, put compost-topsoil mix in them and plant into that. However, the preference is to not plant for approx 3 months - until materials are decomposed.