

How to create a Wicking bed in a raised bed

What you will need:

- Raised garden bed (or sleepers or iron to create one)
- Gravel
- One piece of shade cloth (same dimensions as the garden bed)
- 2 sections of PVC pipe - one 20cm taller than the bed and one the length of the bed.
- PVC elbow join and PVC end cap
- Builders plastic (enough to line the raised bed).
- Soil

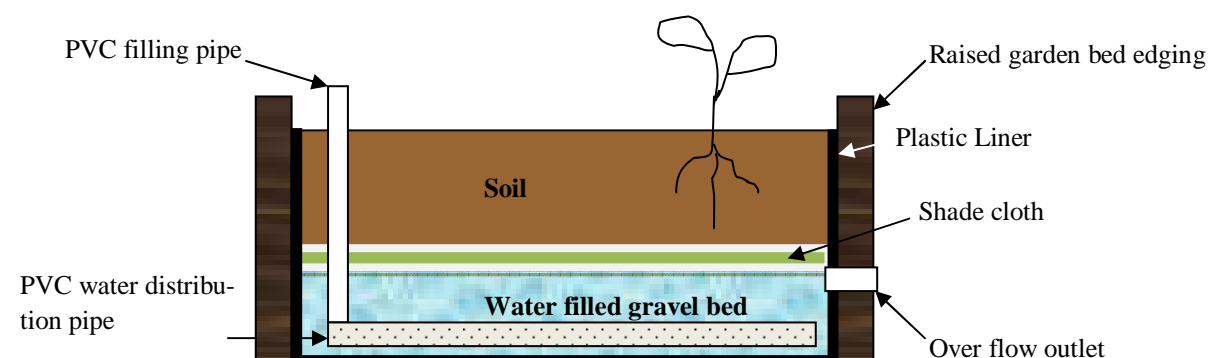
Step 1:

- Level the bottom of the raised bed. Dig it deeper if the sides are not high enough.



Step 2:

- Line the inside of the bed with builders plastic
- Insert the PVC pipe on top of the plastic.



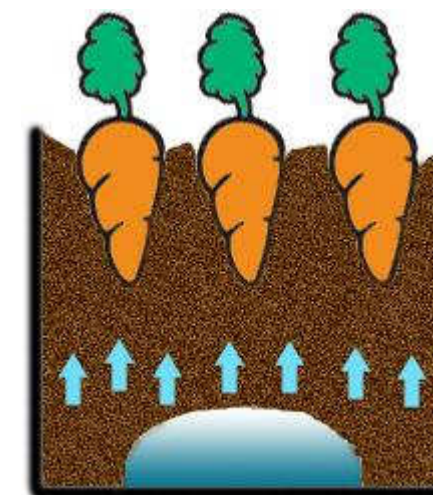
Step 3:

- Shovel in a layer of gravel (around 20cm deep)
- Cut an overflow hole at the top of the gravel layer at the opposite end to the PVC filling point.



Step 4:

- Fit your layer of shade cloth on top of the gravel.
- Fill your bed with a mixture of loam soil and compost to a depth of 30-40cm.



Step 5:

- Plant your bed with seedlings and watch them grow.
- You can also incorporate a worm farm into your wicking bed by half burying a plastic tub into the bed at one end. Drill holes in the bottom then add your composting worms and scraps.

