

Soil Mix for Raised Garden Beds — Checklist

Reliable mix ratios (now with our Lucky Cat 9b formula), a simple fill method, and quick math to size materials—designed for raised beds in real-world climates.

Materials & Tools

- ☐ Kellogg Raised Bed & Potting Mix (base)
- ☐ Garden Time Mushroom Compost (compost)
- ☐ Espoma Bio-tone Starter Plus (at planting)
- ☐ Espoma Garden-tone (ongoing feed)
- ☐ Mulch: wood chips or clean straw (top 2")
- ☐ Shovel, rake, wheelbarrow/tarp • Hose for moistening

Lucky Cat 9b Raised-Bed Mix (Products & Ratios)

Component	Product	By Volume	Notes
Base Mix	Kellogg Raised Bed & Potting Mix	70%	Porous, moisture-holding base for hot/dry summers. Common bag ~2 cu ft; some bales 3 cu ft.
Compost	Garden Time Mushroom Compost	30%	Boosts organic matter & biology; 30% balances richness with airflow.
Mulch (top)	Wood chips or clean straw	2" layer	Critical in heat—reduces evaporation & evens soil temps; refresh through summer.

Example (4'×8'×12" = 32 cu ft)

70% Kellogg RB&P Mix: 22.4 cu ft → ~12 bags (2 cu ft ea) • 30% Mushroom Compost: 9.6 cu ft → ~10 bags (1 cu ft ea) • Add ~10% extra to top-off after settling (~3.2 cu ft).

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How Much Soil Do I Need? • Step-by-Step Fill

Measure inside dimensions. Volume (cu ft) = Length × Width × Height. 1 cubic yard = 27 cu ft. Many bags are 1.5–2 cu ft.

Example — 4'×8'×1' bed

Volume = $4 \times 8 \times 1 = 32$ cu ft Cubic yards: $32 \div 27 \approx 1.19$ yd³ 1.5 cu ft bags: $32 \div 1.5 \approx 22$ bags

Lucky Cat 9b Mix Breakdown

Kellogg RB&P (70%): 22.4 cu ft (~12 bags @2 cu ft) Mushroom Compost (30%): 9.6 cu ft (~10 bags @1 cu ft) Top-off (~10%): 3.2 cu ft

Step-by-Step: Filling a Raised Bed

1. Prep the site: level the bed; use cardboard only over invasive weeds.
2. Measure inside length × width × height; calculate volume; plan bag counts.
3. Stage Kellogg mix and mushroom compost; lightly moisten dusty materials.
4. Blend to ~70/30 uniformly on a tarp or in the bed—avoid thick layers if planting immediately.
5. At planting: work in Espoma Bio-tone Starter Plus per label (e.g., ~4 lb per 100 sq ft or ~1 cup per cu ft when blending).
6. Fill to the rim and water deeply to settle; top off if needed and finish with a 2" mulch layer.
7. Ongoing feed: Espoma Garden-tone every 4–6 weeks in season (e.g., ~3–3.5 lb per 50 sq ft or ~ $\frac{1}{3}$ cup per plant).

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