

Hugelmound DIY

Making a Hugelmound garden requires roughly layering up 3 equal parts, each 12"-18" deep:

Base layer: Logs and branches 6"-18" diameter. The bigger the material the longer it will take to break down, and longer the lifespan of the hugelmound. Rotting wood helps balance the ratio of carbon to nitrogen. Maple and oak is best. Avoid rot-resistant trees like black walnut and cedar and trees with sap or resin, like pine and spruce should be used sparingly.

Middle layer: leaves and small sticks, nitrogen rich materials like manure or kitchen scraps

Top layer: topsoil

Tools and materials needed to make a hugelmound: Shovels, wheelbarrows, metal rakes, straw/hay mulch, seeds

Step 2:

Put logs in the trench. Biggest logs should be at the bottom and smaller ones on top and in-between.



Step 3:

Layer leaves, small sticks, kitchen scraps and manure on top of the logs. Be sure to stuff these materials in between any spaces between the logs and branches before building up too high. Air spaces are lovely habitat for wasps and rodents so be sure not to leave any room for them to move in!! Turf with the grass side down may also be piled on in this layer. A thorough watering after this step will help materials in these first 2 layers start being sponges and breaking down.



Credit: gardeningblog.net

Step 1:

Dig a trench that the logs will sit in. Water will collect in the trench and the wood will absorb the water.

Step 5:

Plant seeds and then mulch with a straw/hay mixture to keep the moisture in and weeds down. Happy gardening!!



Step 4:

Put down 12"-18" of topsoil. Some sources recommend letting the mound settle for a couple months before planting but you can plant immediately if that is the better option for the site.

