

How to Create a Wicking Bed in a Raised Bed

What you will need:

- Raised garden bed (can recycle sleepers, iron or pallets to create one)
- Gravel
- Piece of shade cloth (same dimensions as garden bed)
- 2 x sections of PVC pipe - one 20cm taller than the bed and one the length of the bed.
- 1 x PVC elbow join and 1 x PVC end cap
- Builders plastic (enough to line the raised bed).
- Soil

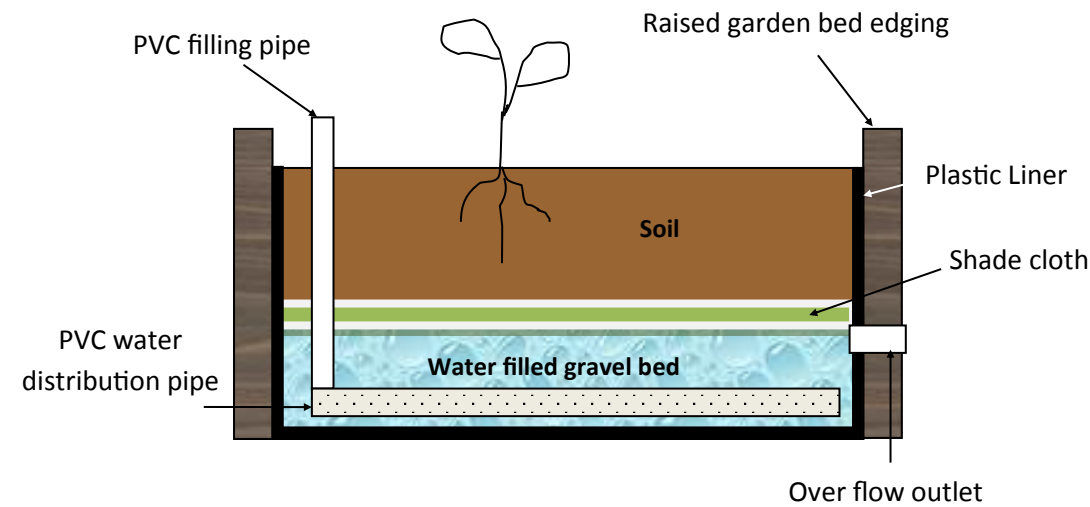
Step 1:

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.



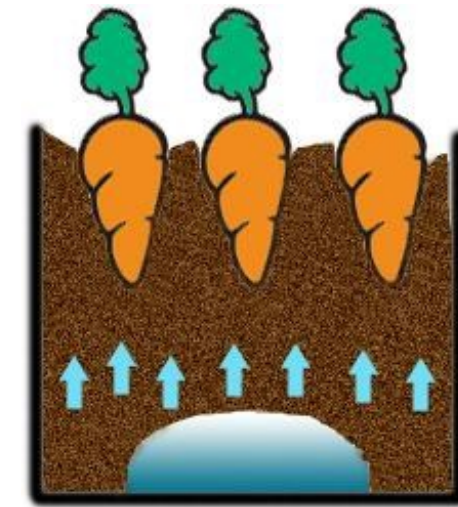
Step 3:

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.

