

Pallet Garden



When looking for a suitable pallet always check for stamps on the wood. If it has a name of a company it belongs to that company and should be left. It also may be treated chemically. Check for other stamps showing country of origin, such as GB, MEX or US – interesting but not important. Then check for a stamp to indicate treatment of all imported pallets. MB – dipped in Methyl Bromide (reject this one), HT-Heat Treated - ok for food plants.

1. Cut to required size. Remember they are very heavy when filled with soil.
2. Use some lengths of wood to tack on the back for extra support and put a length along the bottom.
3. Apply raw linseed oil to preserve wood if desired.
4. Use shade cloth, weed matting or hessian (will eventually rot) or anything that will let water through but not the soil -tack a piece on the back if desired- improves the final look.
5. Cut a piece of the material you are using, the width, plus twice the depth of the pallet to make a bag to hold the soil.
6. (a) Add some “Clumping kitty litter” to soil mix to help hold water.
(b) If using a full “half” pallet weave some brown coloured drip retic hose through it as you stuff with soil mix – seal one end and have a hose attachment to the other.
7. Lay down and cut small holes in the shade cloth a few centimetres apart and plant herbs, spinach, lettuce, flowers etc.
8. Leave flat for about 3 weeks to allow plants to get firm roots.
9. Water well.
10. Then stand the pallet up and add more soil and bigger plants along the top.

You are using the air space now and can move to follow the sun if necessary. Also try to scrounge the materials, no need to buy anything except maybe the nails!

