Rockin E Gardening Handouts

Tips and Suggestions for 'Year-Round' Gardening

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Mulch, Bark, & Soil Requirements

Determine Bark, Mulch or Soil Needs

Measure the area you want to cover (In Feet) and determine how deep you want to add bark, mulch or soil (In Inches).

Use the following charts to help you determine how many bags, or how many yards, of bark, mulch or soil you need in your garden.

Bag Size	Depth	Bag Coverage	Area To Cover: 64 sq ft 8'x8'	100 sq ft 25'x4'	144 sq ft 12'x12'
			Number of Bags Needed		
2 Cubic Ft Bag	2" Deep	12 sq ft	6	9	12
	3" Deep	8 sq ft	8	13	18
	4" Deep	6 sq ft	11	17	24
3 Cubic Ft Bag	2" Deep	18 sq ft	4	6	8
	3" Deep	12 sq ft	6	9	12
	4" Deep	9 sq ft	8	12	16

		One Yard Coverage	Area Covered		
1 Cubic Yard	2" Deep	162 sq ft	13' x 13'	or	41' x 4'
	3" Deep	108 sq ft	11' x 10'	or	27' x 4'
	4" Deep	81 sq ft	9' x 9'	or	20' x 4'

Garden Example:

You want to add 4 inches of bark, mulch or soil to a 20 foot by 20 foot garden area.

20' x 20' **= 400 square feet**
400 square feet x (4"deep ÷ 12") **= 133 cubic feet**
133 cubic feet ÷ 27 cubic feet **= 4.9 cubic yards**

A standard-bed 3/4 ton pickup truck can usually carry 2 to 2.5 cubic yards of bark or mulches, but you need to consider the weight of each product before loading it.

A cubic yard can weigh between 800 and 2,000 pounds, depending on what product you purchase. A standard 3/4 ton pickup can safely haul 1,500 to 2,000 pounds.

In this example, you may need to make two to five trips to haul all you need. Bark and mulch doesn't weigh as much as soil does.

Remember that a 1/2 ton pickup truck cannot carry as much weight as a 3/4 ton pickup truck, and, a short-bed pickup truck cannot haul as much volume as a standard-bed pickup truck.

Sometimes you need to buy tons of bark, mulch or soil, not just a few bags, to cover the area the depth you want to.

How To Determine The Area

↑
L(ength) (feet)
↓ ←W(idth) (feet)→

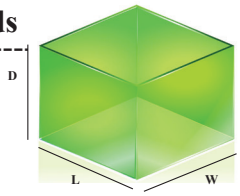
D = Depth (inches) of Mulch or Soil

L x W x D = volume

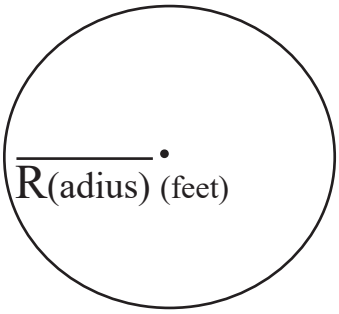
(_____ft) x (_____ft) x (____in)

÷ (12 inches) = **Cubic Feet**

÷ (27 cubic feet) = **Cubic Yards**



Length x Width x Depth = Volume



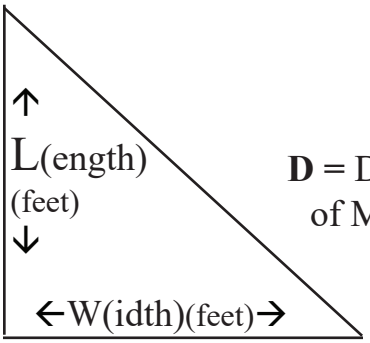
D = Depth (inches) of Mulch or Soil

3.1417 x R x R x D = volume

3.1417 x (___ft) x (___ft) x (____in)

÷ (12 inches) = **Cubic Feet**

÷ (27 cubic feet) = **Cubic Yards**



D = Depth (inches) of Mulch or Soil

L x (W÷2) x D = volume

(____ft) x (____ft ÷2) x (___ in)

÷ (12 inches) = **Cubic Feet**

÷ (27 cubic feet) = **Cubic Yards**

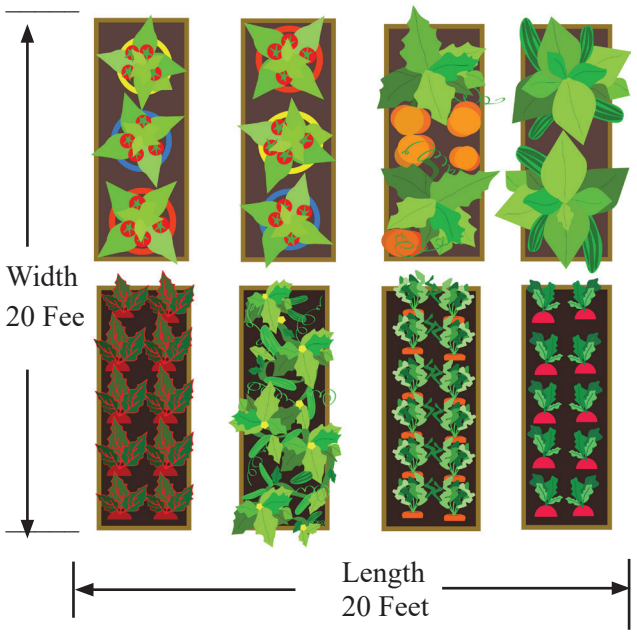
Fill in the blanks and calculate the amount of Bark, Mulch or Soil you need to buy.

Coverage Chart for 2.0 Cubic Foot Bags

How Many Bags Of Materials Do You Need For Your Garden?

Size of Area	2" Deep	3" Deep	4" Deep
3' x 4' or 12 Sq Ft	1 Bag	2 Bags	2 Bags
8' x 8' or 64 Sq Ft	6 Bags	8 Bags	11 Bags
12' x 12' or 144 Sq Ft	12 Bags	18 Bags	24 Bags
16' x 16' or 256 Sq Ft	22 Bags	32 Bags	43 Bags
3.5' Diameter Circle or 10 Sq Ft	1 Bag	2 Bags	2 Bags
5.5' Diameter Circle or 24 Sq Ft	2 Bags	3 Bags	4 Bags
7.5' Diameter Circle or 44 Sq Ft	4 Bags	6 Bags	8 Bags
9.5' Diameter Circle or 71 Sq Ft	8 Bags	9 Bags	12 Bags
Conversion to Bulk: 13.5 '2 Cubic Foot Bags' equals 1 Cubic Yard			
9 '3 Cubic Foot Bags' equals 1 Cubic Yard			
27 '1 Cubic Foot Bags' equals 1 Cubic Yard			
18 '1.5 Cubic Foot Bags' equals 1 Cubic Yard			

Sometimes you need to buy cubic yards of bark, mulch, or soil, (not just a few bags) to cover your area; to the depth that is required.



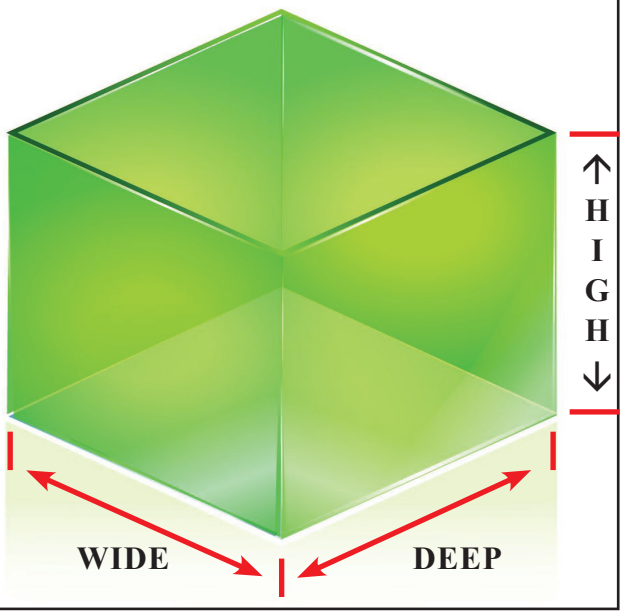
Length x Width = Area

20 feet x 20 feet = 400 square feet

Length x Width x Height = Volume

20 feet x 20 feet x 1 foot = 400 cubic feet

400 cubic feet ÷ 27 cubic feet = 14.8 cubic yards



Width x Depth x Height = Volume

10 feet x 10 feet = 100 square feet

100 square feet x 1 foot high = 100 cubic feet

100 cubic feet ÷ 27 cubic feet = 3.7 cubic yards

1 cubic yard = 27 cubic feet

1 square yard = 9 square feet

1 cubic foot = 1,728 cubic inches

1 square foot = 144 square inches