

# Gardening

## Week One





# Traditional Rows Container/ Raised Beds

Which one is best?



# Traditional Row Gardens

## Pros

If your soil is too compact, clay-like, or drains poorly, a raised row will allow the plants to develop healthy, deep roots. The mounded soil, rich in nutrients, continually breaks down and enhances the entire gardening space. In areas where it rains a lot, raised rows will drain better.

## Cons

Raised rows take more time to create than flat rows and also take up more space in the garden. Additionally, raised rows are not permanent, and you'll need to keep adding soil to the rows. Finally, raised rows aren't as flexible as flat rows if you want to plant a second crop.



# Container Gardening

## Pros

As well as being perfect for folks lacking garden space, containers give you a lot of control over growing conditions, as you can tailor your care to whatever you're growing. For example, you can move containers in and out of the sun and water them when necessary. Containers are also a good way to avoid soilborne diseases and insect pests.

## Cons

Containers do take more plant care since the soil dries out quickly and nutrients leach out; you'll need to research plants' watering and fertilizing needs. Also, containers require soilless potting mix and the plants' pots (which is an added expense).



# Raised Garden Beds

## Pros

- ...is ideal where ground soil is rocky or of poor quality
- ...is perfect for small spaces where plants need to be confined
- ...reduces weeds and pests
- ...prevents water runoff
- ...provides a higher yield by enabling better drainage and deep rooting
- ...can eliminate bending or stretching to ground level
- ...allows for a longer growing season when combined with row covers
- ...makes routine garden work easier on the back and knees

## Cons

Of course, building raised beds requires start-up work and investment. Plus, raised beds require that you buy or make your own compost to fill the beds. In addition, you can't really get equipment inside raised beds, so it's not ideal for large gardens as it's more difficult to hoe, weed, and harvest than flat rows.





# How to Set Up a Raised Bed



Natural Mulch



Grass Clippings



Compost



Rock Debris

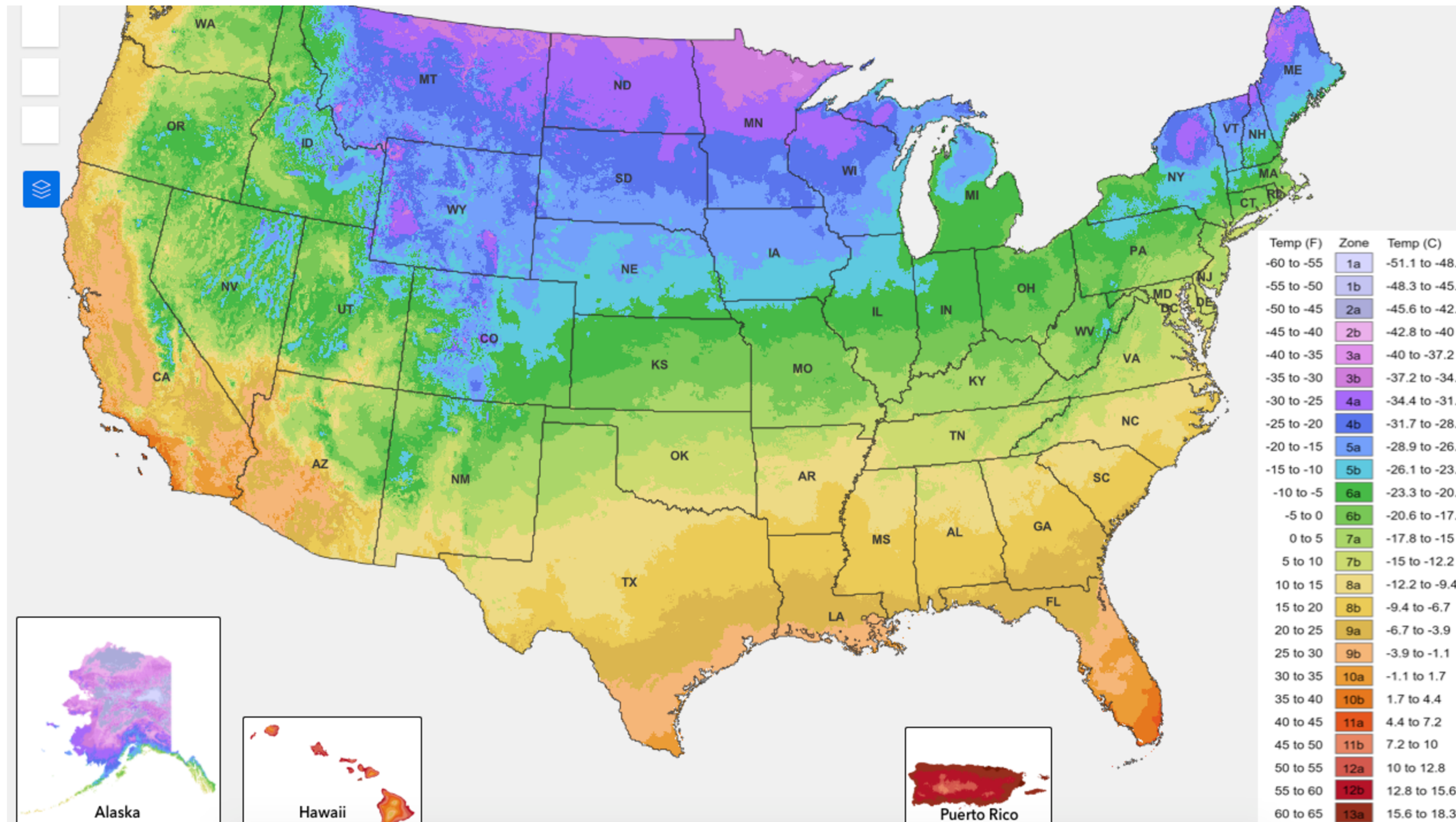


Cardboard

Build or Buy  
Fill (See Picture)  
Plant  
Water

# What to Grow

## Farmers' Almanac Planting Calendar



# **Farmers' Almanac Gardening Terms Explained**

**Above ground crops:** Crops that produce their yield above the soil  
(corn, peppers, squash, etc.)

**Root Crops:** Crops that produce their yield below the soil (potatoes,  
radishes, carrots, etc.)

**Seedbeds:** A bed of soil cultivated for planting seeds or seedlings  
before being transplanted.

**Seedlings:** Young plants—especially ones that grow from seeds  
(rather than from a cutting).

**Transplanting:** To uproot and replant a growing plant or an already  
well-established plant. (Transplanting suggestions are true for  
houseplants as well.)



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# Thank You

Have a question? Contact us now!

## More Information



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