

Planning

- Study your garden space
- Observe sun and shade.
 Most herbs will need full sun

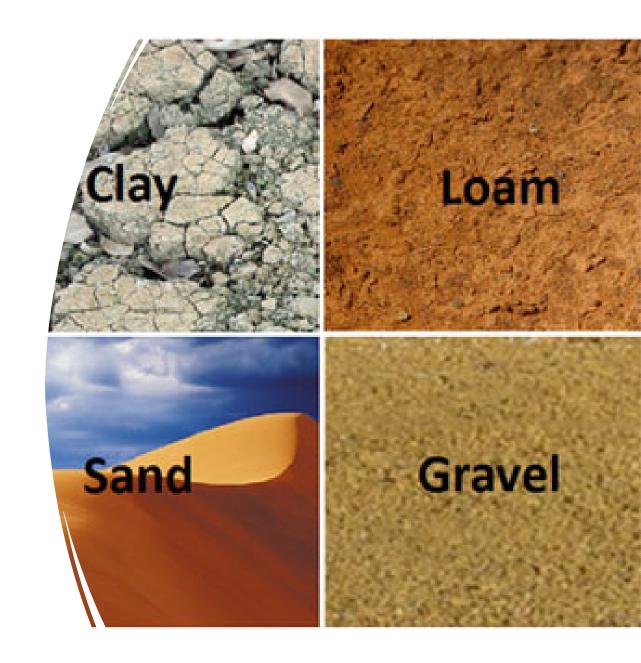


Planning

- What is your goal for your herb garden.
- Cooking or flavoring, pollinator attraction, medicinal.....



- Herb plants soil requirements are as varied as the plants them selves, requirements range from moist and rich or tending to dry and fast draining.
- Loam is balanced soil of clay, sand and gravel.



- Succulent herbs?? Yes. Aloe is one example.
- Succulent soil recipe
- 3 parts potting soil, 2 parts coarse sand (or poultry grit) and 1 part perlite



- Site for growing.
 Understanding your soil. Do you need to test the soil?
- Fertilizers = improve the supply of nutrients in the soil, <u>directly</u> affecting plant growth.
- Soil amendments = improve the soils physical condition (such as structure, or water movement) indirectly affecting plant growth.



Questions to consider if you are using containers.

- Is the container big enough for the mature plant?
- Transportable to bring inside to over winter?
- Adequate drainage?
- Is the soil appropriate?



Pick

Purposeful picking. After planning and preparing comes picking out your herbs.

- Research before you buy, refer to your goals list. Then take time to read the plant label.
- Plant labels
- Annual
- Perennial



Plant labels

Pick

Sun requirements
Soil requirements
Water requirement
Hardiness zone. We are zone 8
Height of the mature plant





 Yarrow. Achillea millefolium. Used in ancient times to promote wound healing.

 Tea can be made from the upper parts of the plant to combat colds and fever.

These are right out front in the Demo Bed!



- Echinacea. In the daisy family, 10 species commonly called coneflowers.
- Growing outside in the Demo garden.
- Herbalists recommend echinacea to help boost the immune system and fight infections.



- Lavender
- Loves the sun and well drained soil.
- Used for both culinary and aromatherapy.



- Thyme. So many varieties!
- Creeping Thyme in our demo garden.
- Drought tolerant, very hardy.



- Chives.
- Hardy and happy in full sun. Grow in ground or in pots.
- Stems and blossoms are edible.



- Sage
- Drought tolerant
- Full sun or partial shade in well drained soil.
- Harvest regularly to encourage growth of new leaves.





- Greek Oregano
- Favored by chefs.
- Loves the sun.
- Pinch back the stems for a bushy compact plant.



- Mint
- Many varieties
- Can be invasive in ground.
- Very fragrant
- Makes fantastic tea.

- Fennel part of the carrot family
- Wide variety of health benefits
- Mild licorice taste
- Hardy in zones 4-9
- Entire plant is edible



- Rosemary
- Very drought tolerant and adaptive to many different soils.
- Used in cooking, favoring oils or in sachets.
- Usually hardy in our area.





- Sweet marjoram
- Very nutritious and useful in marinades and as a garnish.
- Likes full sun and sandy soil.



- Lemon Balm
- Part of the mint family
- Considered a calming herb.
- Small white flowers attract pollinators
- Use as a tea or in lotions

- Dill
- Stems grow 2 to 4 feet tall.
- Yellow flowers open wide and flat giving rise to dill seeds as they fade.
- Harvest seed heads when they start turning brown.
- Leaves taste great in vegetable recipes.

Some classify it as a biennial since the single plant only lives 2 years. Self seeds.

Biennial zones 2-8. Perennial 9-11.



- Basil
- My personal favorite
- Salads, sandwiches, pasta sauce, pesto.....
- Likes warm weather, well drained fertile soil.





- Flat leaf Parsley
- Holds flavor well during cooking.
- Its divided leaf are sometimes mistaken for cilantro.
- Likes to grow in cooler seasons



- Chamomile
- Makes excellent tea
- Delicate daisy flowers, self sowing
- Great for attracting pollinators





- Cilantro/Coriander
- Cilantro (green plant on the right) prefers full sun but can tolerate part shade.
- Harvest leaves when the plant is 4 to 6 inches tall.
- Coriander is the ground seed of the plant that should be harvested as they turn brown and then ground to use in cooking.





Planting Tips

✓ Plan

✓ Prepare

✓ Pick

✓ PLANT!!

- Spring is the probably the most common time, but you can plant (just about) anytime.
- Fall planting perennial herbs can mean a larger plant for you the following year.
- Again, check the plant requirements on the plant label.
- Some herbs thrive in cooler temperatures. Some like it hot.

