

Raised Bed Wall Assembly and Fasteners

Learn about methods to fasten and assemble a traditional wooden raised bed



Introduction

There are many options on how you can fasten the walls of your raised bed garden.

This document is limited primarily to raised-beds constructed of wood or wood-like material (e.g. plastic composites) for customized beds.

Methods of Wall Assembly



Staked Walls

Advantages

- Quick and easy to establish
- Long lasting
- Can easily remove or repair easily

Disadvantages

- May not be as stable or tidy

Source: <http://www.rodalesorganiclife.com/>



Corner Posted

Advantages

- Makes leveling the raised bed simple
- Very stable
- Able to fasten securely

Disadvantages

- Could be difficult to repair especially as the wood begins to decay

Source: http://eartheasy.com/grow_raised_beds_02.jpg



Simple Assembly

Advantages

- Quick and inexpensive

Disadvantages

- Could be difficult to repair especially as the wood begins to decay
- More susceptible to freeze/thaw action

Source: <https://tinyurl.com/h24vg6b>

Raised Bed Wall Assembly and Fasteners

Learn about methods to fasten and assemble a traditional wooden raised bed



Bracketed

Advantages

- Secure and long lasting (depending on construction and material)
- Inexpensive shelf or 'L' bracket options are found at local hardware stores

Disadvantages

- Could be difficult to repair but repairs would be less likely
- Can be expensive

Source: <https://tinyurl.com/jrkzpgq>



Jointed (Dado or Lap Joint)

Advantages

- Can be glued, bolted, or nailed. Very strong

Disadvantages

- Requires additional tools and skill.

Source: <https://tinyurl.com/zs473vs>



Overlap

Advantages

- Easy to install

Disadvantages

- Vulnerable to failure and rot due to many joints.

Source: <https://tinyurl.com/hcncfys>

Raised Bed Wall Assembly and Fasteners

Learn about methods to fasten and assemble a traditional wooden raised bed



Fasteners

Nails



Can be used on any assembly method but is probably the weakest fastener. It is susceptible to freeze/thaw more so than other fasteners

Wood Screw



A wood screw is sturdy and long lasting. Most are galvanized or coated to prevent rust and can be removed when needed. This can be used on any method of wall assembly.

Nuts and Bolts



Nuts and bolts work best on bracketed and corner-posted beds. However, despite coating to prevent rust, removing them will be difficult. A wood screw is preferred if possible.

Wood Glue



Wood glue can be solely on jointed and overlap wall assembly methods or in combination with other methods like simple or corner-posted. In addition to this, wood glue will create a water tight seal, therefore preventing rot, wherever the glue is in contact with the wood.