

MATERIALS

Quantity	Description	Source (O'ahu)	Approx. Total Price
1.5	4"x4"x51" ChoiceDek grey deck posts, #62374	Lowe's (special order) OR use 4"x4" redwood posts	\$40
4	12' Trex composite decking boards, #576538	Home Depot	\$135
40	3" stainless steel deck screws plus driver bit	Home Depot	\$17 (75-pack)
1 cubic yard	Soil/Compost ("Lawn & Garden Blend")	Hawaiian Earth Products 682-5895 (or other source)	\$35.70 (plus delivery cost)
To cover 4'x8' area	Cardboard and newspaper (thick layer; to kill grass without having to dig it out)	Check with cafeteria or local grocery stores for empty boxes	Free



TOOLS

Drill, saw, tape measure, extension cord, pick, shovel, wheelbarrow, buckets.

BUILDING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Cut deck posts into six equal length pieces (about 1 foot each).
2. Cut each decking board into an eight-foot and a four-foot board.
3. Assemble as shown in the diagram. For transport, it is easiest to assemble the ends off-site (posts and four-foot boards), then attach the sides on-site.
4. Place one post in the middle of each 8' side, on the inside of the bed. Screw in place to both top and bottom boards (this will prevent bowing over time).

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Dig a trench in the soil for the border to fit into (with slightly deeper holes for posts). At least 1/4 of the total border height (about 3 inches) should be below ground.
2. Place the border in the trench. Take the time to adjust the trench as needed so that the border is level and straight. Fill soil into trenches to firm in place.
3. Completely cover the grass inside the border with a thick layer of cardboard and newspaper. Wet both sides so it will begin to break down.
4. Fill the garden bed with a mix of soil, compost, and decomposed mulch to the top of the border; do not over-fill.
5. Amend the soil with natural amendments (e.g. compost, vermicast, fully composted manure). Water the soil well and cover with cover cloth for shade. Keep the soil moist and let the bed rest for about a week before planting.
6. Optional: Instead of using imported soil, build a layered compost pile inside the garden border, water it regularly to assist with decomposition, and plant into the finished compost (about a 2-3 month process).
7. Optional: Place dry cardboard/newspaper and a thick layer of mulch (e.g. wood chips) in the pathways around the garden bed to keep grass away.

