

# **Easy Home Gardening**

## **Finding the perfect location**

- ❖ The area you choose should get 6-8 hours of sunshine daily.
- ❖ Keep away from trees and shrubs to avoid interference from roots and shade.
- ❖ For convenience, place close to the house.
- ❖ Since you won't be using it, condition of existing soil is not really relevant.
- ❖ Good drainage is important – there should be no puddles after rain.

## **Basic Steps**

1. **LAYOUT** – Layout garden in 4'x4' planting areas, arranging in squares, not rows.
2. **BOXES** – A & P offers a variety of sizes, pre-cut and easy assemble garden kits
3. **AISLES** – When planting multiple boxes, form walking aisles by leaving 3' spaces between boxes.
4. **SOIL** – Organic Square Foot Gardening Soil
5. **SELECT** - Depending on the mature size of the plant, grow 1, 4, 9, or 16 equally spaced plants per square foot. If the seed packet recommends plant spacing be 12 inches apart, plant one plant per square foot. If 6 inch spacing; 4 per square foot. If 4 inch spacing; 9 per square foot. If 3 inch spacing; 16 per square foot.
6. **PLANT** - Plant one or two seeds in each spot by making a shallow hole with your finger. Cover, but do not pack the soil. Thinning is all but eliminated. Seeds are not wasted. Store extra seeds in your refrigerator.
7. **WATER** - Water only as much as each plant needs. Water often, especially at first, and on very hot dry days. If possible, water by hand (uses a lot less water) with a cup from a sun-warmed bucket of water. Warm water helps the soil warm up in early and late season.
8. **HARVEST** - Harvest continually and when a crop in one square is gone, add some new compost and plant a new different crop in that square.