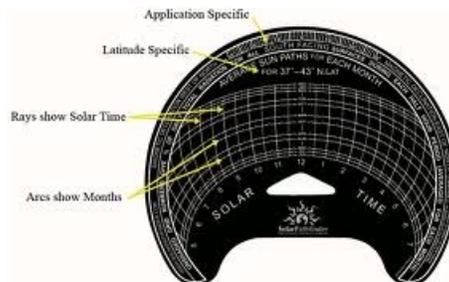
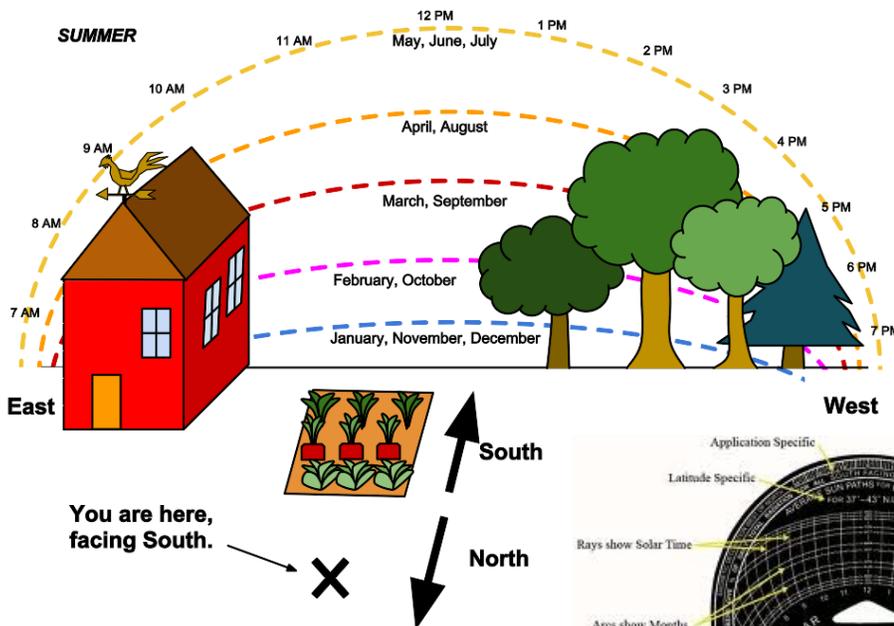




CRATE FARMING 101

Before you start growing your own food in milk crates, set yourself up for success with **SUN**, **SOIL** and **WATER**, and the knowledge needed to get the most out of your available space.

- (1) Minimum 4 hours of sunlight, ideally 6+ hours.
- (2) Clean tested soil.
- (3) A crop plan taking into consideration available light, the season, quick/slow crops, available growing space.
- (4) A water source and irrigation on a timer, OR the availability to water manually e/o day.
- (5) Knowledge about maintaining the soil (fertilizing/amending), maintaining the garden (thinning, weeding, trellising, pollinating), and pest and disease management.
- (6) Season extension.
- (7) How to use your harvest (preparing, cooking, canning, pickling).



SITE SELECTION—FINDING LIGHT

Light is perhaps the most important element when selecting a garden site. 4-6 hours of unfiltered sun will support low-light crops, 6 or more hours are required to successfully grow full sun crops (like tomatoes). Using a solar tracker is the most accurate way to measure sunlight hours. Take into account the height of trees when they're leafed out. More sunlight = more growth potential.

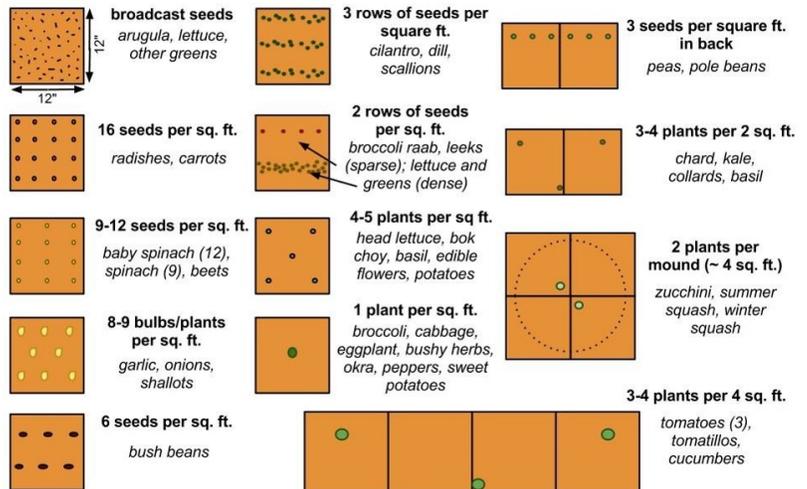
SHOPPING LIST

- Milk crate (1'x1')
- Landscaping fabric (3'x3')
- Scissors
- Staple gun
- Organic soil
- Seeds/Starts



Learn more about how to grow fresh vegetables anywhere the sun shines with our comprehensive urban farming guide book *The Urban Bounty: How to Grow Fresh Food Anywhere.*

PLANT SPACING: 1'X1'



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CROP SELECTION & TIMELINE

SEASON	QUICK CROP (<2 MONTHS)	SLOW CROP (>3 MONTHS)
Spring (cool weather) <i>Plant in late April.</i>	Chard, cilantro, collards, dill, greens, kale, kohlrabi, lettuces, nasturtiums, parsley, pea shoots, radishes, spinach	Beets, broccoli, cabbages, carrots, chard, collards, kale, kohlrabi, leeks, lettuce (head), onions, parsley, scallions, shallots, sugar snap peas
Summer (warm weather) <i>Begin planting in May.</i>	Basil, bush beans, bok choy, chard, collards, cucumbers, greens (heat tolerant), kale, summer squash, zucchini	Basil, chard, collards, eggplant, fennel, kale, okra, peppers, potatoes, pumpkin, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, tomatillos, winter squash
Fall (cool weather) <i>Plant in August-October.</i>	Bush beans, chard, cilantro, collards, kale, kohlrabi, lettuces, greens, nasturtiums, pea shoots, radishes, spinach	Broccoli, cabbage, carrots, chard, collards, kale, kohlrabi, leeks, lettuce (head), scallions, spinach, sugar snap peas
Overwintering <i>(these crops will likely need protection from hard frosts)</i>	Chard, cilantro, collards, greens (Asian greens, arugula, claytonia, mache), lettuces (hardy), kale, parsley, spinach	Beets, carrots, garlic, scallions