

Kū 'Āina Pā Summer Intensive 2016

Garden Bed Preparation and Compost Application

“Take care of the edges and the corners; the rest will take care of itself.” – Orin Martin

Considerations for a garden bed

Size
Access to water
Access for people and tools
Sun exposure
Slope
Wind
Soil quality

Before digging, check soil moisture. Do not dig if it is too wet or too dry.

- **Corner posts**
- **Check paths, rake clear and add ½-2” of soil on to your bed**
- **Edge the bed**
- **Deep dig the bed with a garden fork from center out**
- **Add sifted (finished) compost and amendments, evenly**
- **Lightly till compost and amendments into top 4” of soil**
- **Smooth bed with a rake, and string if you want to**
- **Mulch the path if appropriate**

Add Organic Material by:

Adding compost into soil
Adding soil amendments
Topdressing
Mulching

There are many methods to bed preparation; as you work in your garden, you will tailor a method that best suits you.