

# What not to do when setting up your strawberry beds.

## Requirements

The following requirements should be observed when establishing strawberry beds:

1. **Bed Size:** Make sure the bed size is not more or less than 2 feet. If the bed is less than 2 feet, the fruits may come in contact with the soil, which is not ideal as they should hang freely for proper growth.
2. **Bed Shape:** It is crucial to give your bed a dome shape instead of keeping it flat. A flat bed may lead to waterlogging when watered, which can damage the fruits. A slight elevation in the middle of the bed helps with proper drainage.
3. **Avoid Walking Inside the Bed:** Refrain from walking inside the bed, as this can compact the soil and hinder water penetration. Instead, plant in rows to create walkways between them, allowing easy access without stepping on the bed.
4. **Bed Covering:** Avoid using black construction paper as a cover for your beds. The sun can easily tear it off, exposing the soil and causing the plants to dry out quickly during hot weather. Instead, opt for more durable and effective bed coverings.
5. **Mulching Guidelines:** During the mulching process, be sure to follow the above guidelines to ensure a productive harvest. Proper mulching helps retain moisture, control weeds, and maintain soil temperature, which are all essential for healthy strawberry plants.

## Conclusion

By adhering to these recommendations, strawberry farmers can set up their beds effectively and increase the likelihood of a successful strawberry harvest