

Trellises: Cheap, Fast, and Easy

Note: We have round and oval raised beds.

Our first trellis experience was lashing water shoots from the apple tree together into tripods and then lashing on crossbars. The only expense was a bit of string for tying. These lasted about seven years, even with standing out in the rain all winter. They did need to be retied once or twice because we used cotton string.

Our second experience was of bolting two 2 x 4s together a few inches from the ends, making an "X" with long legs. We straddled two of them over the ends of an old clothes line pole in our yard around which we made a large raised bed.

We screwed in "L" hooks about 12" apart down the length of the 2 x 4s, laid bamboo poles in the "L" hooks, then laid additional poles across the ends of the first poles at right angles (the side poles support the end poles and make a square,) then lashed them together with twist ties.

Cost was the cost of the four 2 x 4s, a few "L" hooks, two bolts, washers, and the bamboo poles, some of which were obtained for free from a bamboo grower's compost pile. The bamboo doesn't weather particularly well, so we bring these poles indoors. We sometimes fold down the 2 x 4s and bring them in also.

Mary Gayle Van Ingen

Milwaukie, Oregon

www.turtlefeathers.net

Angelus Leather Dyes

39 colors - 3 ounce and pint bottles.

InLace Liquid Inlay System

Kits available in Small and Large sizes.

Nuggets and Granules available in two sizes.

Optima Woodburners and pens.

Proxxon jigsaw package. Everything you need.

Large selection of tools, supplies, and books.

Oil Lamps

828.488.8586

QuickWood