

## Garden Trellis



This is an easy, cheap and fun way to add structure to your garden. This trellis can be done in a couple of days. The longest wait will be waiting for the concrete to harden around the posts.

### Materials

Here is a list of materials for the garden trellis/arbor. This list is based on an 8 foot high, 6 foot wide trellis.

- 2 – twelve foot 2x4's
- 2 – ten foot treated 4x4 posts
- 2 – bags of 60 pound concrete
- 2 – ten foot 2x2s
- 4 – bolts
- 2 lbs of 8 penny galvanized nails
- Hammer
- Saw
- Level
- Socket set

### Instructions

You can change some of the measurements if you want to create a larger or smaller structure once you lay everything out.



First determine the site where you want to place the trellis. Keep in mind exposure to sun and neighbor sight lines (you don't want to block their views).

Know where your property line is located, make sure that you don't crowd your neighbors too much.



Also, check with local utilities; gas, power and electric to make sure that you won't hit any lines that are buried.



Next, you want to dig your hole for the support posts. Measure a distance of 6 feet between holes. Dig your holes 18 inches to 2 feet deep. This will ensure that your post is secure and the trellis won't tip when plants are growing up on it.



We used 10 foot treated posts that will allow an 8 foot high trellis when we are done.



We also used a 60 lb. bag of concrete to hold each post in.



Make sure that your posts are level on all sides

Give the concrete 2 days to set-up.

Once the concrete is set then you will start to work on the upper part of the trellis



Cut the tops of the posts to get them level. On the 12 foot 2x4 you will need to cut a 1 foot piece from each one. That will give you two 1 foot pieces and leave you 11 feet on each 2x4.

These will be nailed directly in the center, on the outside, of your post. This nail is just to hold the piece in place until you can bolt it to the post. This bolt is important since it holds the entire top on the post. Make sure this cross piece is level.



Next, cut 2 seven foot pieces from the long 2x4s. These will run between the posts and extend approximately 6 inches past your 1 foot 2x4 brace.

We used a small cardboard cut-out to make a decorative curve in ours but you don't need to do that to yours. The key is to make it look the same at all four corners. Nail the two 7 footers on each side.



Finally, you will need to cut the 2x2s into 2 foot pieces.

These are the cross pieces for the top and they will hold up the plant when it reaches the top.



These were spaced out between 7 1/2 to 8 inches apart.



We actually placed them on top and looked at them to make sure they looked balanced before we nailed them in.



### **Now you are done!**

You can plant your new climbers at the base of each post and let them crawl up the post.



Or you place a structure between the posts and place your climbing plant in the center.