



Lavandula stoechas
'Willow Vale'

For a complete list of our range of herbs plus their uses, pick up a copy of our "Herbs in your Garden" leaflet.

Further reading...

The R.H.S. Encyclopedia of Herbs and Their Uses
by *Deni Brown*
ISBN 0-7513-020-31

The Ultimate Herb Book
by *Antony Atha*
ISBN 1-85585-880-0

Herbs by *Roger Phillips & Nicky Foy*
ISBN 0-330-32600-7

Fragrant Herb Garden
by *Lesley Bremness*
ISBN 1-902757-33-5

creating a...

Herb garden

creating a Herb Garden

Herb garden

Haskins Ferndown

Longham, Ferndown
Dorset BH22 9DJ
Tel: 01202 591919

Haskins West End

Mansbridge Road, Gaters Hill
West End, Southampton SO18 3HW
Tel: 023 8047 2324

Haskins Roundstone

Roundstone Bypass, Angmering
West Sussex BN16 4BD
Tel: 01903 777666

Haskins Snowhill

Snowhill Lane, Copthorne
West Sussex RH10 3EY
Tel: 01342 712545



Lemon Verbena
Aloysia triphylla
(syn. *Lippia citrodora*)



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creating a...herb garden

The modern idea of a herb garden as an open space, divided into neat compartments for each different variety, has its origins in ancient Egyptian, Islamic and Christian traditions. Design elements arose out of necessity, for example, an enclosure to keep out animals, hedges and topiary for shade that would conserve precious water in a hot, dry climate.

Today, an amalgamation of tastes prevail, combining the best of formal herb gardens and potagers with the nostalgic influences of cottage gardens and other informal styles.

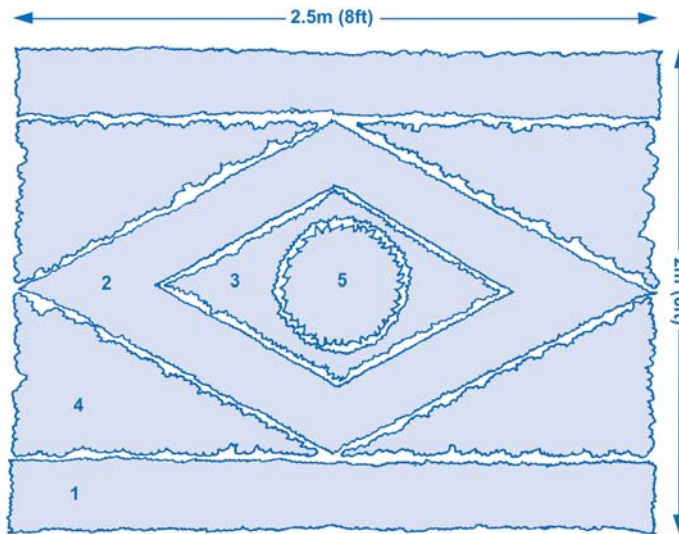
A herb garden can be any shape, size or in any position. There are plants to suit full sun or wet soil in leafy shade. If you aim to pick herbs all year round, consider pathways carefully. Gravel or stepping stones will provide easy access, whatever the weather.



Planting Plan

For a formal herb bed 2.5m x 2m. You will need:

1. *Hyssopus officinalis* (x 20)
2. *Lavandula angustifolia* 'Hidcote' (x 16)
3. *Salvia officinalis* 'Icterina' (x 8)
4. *Salvia officinalis* 'Purpurascens' (x 14)
5. *Laurus nobilis* (x 1)



Formal or informal

Choose between a formal or informal style, to best suit your garden and its surroundings.

Traditionally beds of single variety herbs were neatly edged with box (*Buxus sempervirens*). A modern alternative would be timber, terracotta tiles or slate edging. Clipped topiary specimens would add height, along with a statue, obelisk or sundial.

Symmetry is all-important in a formal "Medieval-style" knot garden. The aim is to make a pattern, combining perhaps several shapes; a star, circle, triangle or square, in-filled with decorative, aromatic herbs.

An informal herb garden provides the ideal opportunity to recreate a Mediterranean-style garden on a sunny bank or free-draining gravelly area.

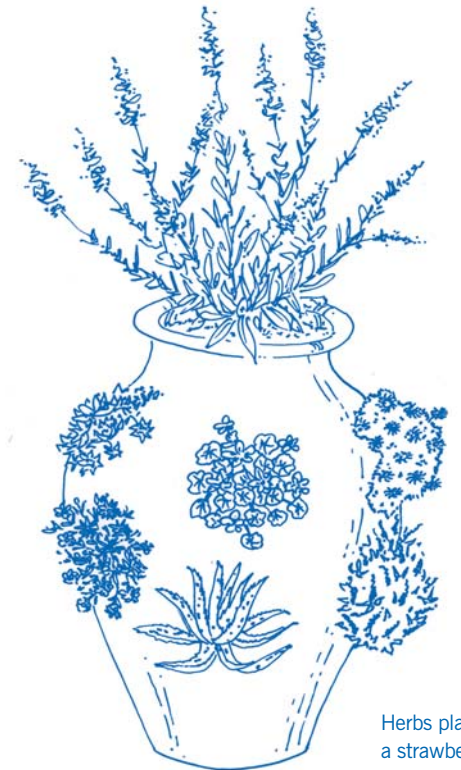
Cultivation

Herbs should be planted in conditions that resemble their native habitat as far as possible. Many of the most popular and familiar culinary varieties are from the Mediterranean and prefer maximum sunshine with free-draining, gravelly soil. If your soil is "heavy" or slow to drain, dig-in ample quantities of grit, or consider building a raised bed to help water escape.

As a rule of thumb, plants with silver, grey or hairy foliage prefer full sun, while those with variegation or delicate leaves will happily tolerate a degree of shade.

Not all herbs are neat or compact, some will grow into towering trees, such as *Eucalyptus globulus* the "Blue Gum" (reaching 150ft), while others can be incessant colonisers, like Mint and Blackberries!

Most herbs can just as easily be grown in containers. Plant using a mix of Multi Purpose Compost and John Innes no.3, for a free-draining, nutritious loam.



Herbs planted into a strawberry pot.