# CROW 100 LBS OF DOTALO ES IN 4 SQ. FT.



**BUILD YOUR OWN POTATO BOX** 

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### INTRODUCTION

When prepping for an emergency, I always recommend storing some freeze dried survival food. In a state of emergency, it can be too dangerous to be outside planting a garden while others are desperate for food. Freeze dried survival foods are ready to eat right away and can be a life saving resource.

But freeze dried food can be expensive, and in a long-term emergency scenario, growing your food is the only way to keep you and your family fed and alive.

One of the best foods you can grow in a survival situation is potatoes. When grown in the right way, potato farming is high yield and low in maintenance.

Potatoes are also resistant to cold weather and poor soil conditions. They can be grown in a small space and last a very long time if stored properly.

Nutritionally, they are remarkably high in protein, potassium and vitamin C.

They also contain many trace minerals such as Calcium, Niacin, Folate, Zinc, Iron, Phosphorus and Magnesium.

They're calorie rich and can be cooked in a variety of different ways which helps keep you from becoming tired of eating them repeatedly.

And if you find yourself without cooking equipment, they can always be eaten raw.

In this book, I'll show you exactly how you can grow 100 pounds of potatoes in a small box just 4 feet squared.

Let's get started.



# The **Potato Box**

Usually potatoes are planted in rows across a garden. But space may be limited for some who live in the city or suburbs where yard space is almost non-existent these days. To save space the Potato Box grows potatoes vertically in layers. Basically, you're building a wood frame and adding sides to the box as the potato plant grows vertically, filling the new space with mulch or soil.

Once you build your potato box a few levels high, you can begin "robbing" the bottom sections for new potatoes and the cycle continues.

If you follow these steps, by the end of a growing season, you will have harvested as much as 100 pounds of naturally grown potatoes.

Some of the materials for the box can be expensive, but if you buy wood that doesn't rot, the potato box can last several years despite being out in the weather.

Building a potato box is easy, here's how:

#### **WHAT YOU WILL NEED:**

#### LIST:

□ QTY 6:

2 inch by 6 inch boards eight feet long

□ QTY 1:

2 inch by 2 inch board 12 feet long

☐ QTY 96:

2 1/2 inch wood screws

☐ Soil

☐ Potatoes for Seeding the box



**Note:** When picking your wood, it's usually best to choose pine, cedar or redwood - all of these will resist rot longer than other woods.

# Building The Potato Box STEP-BY-STEP



#### STEP 1:

PRE-CUT ALL THE WOOD USING THE MEASUREMENTS PROVIDED



#### STEP 2:

PRE-DRILL 4 SCREW HOLES INTO THE CORNERS OF EACH OF THE 2X6 BOARDS



#### **STEP 3:**

ATTACH THE BOTTOM ROW OF 2X6S
TO THE 2X2S AS SHOWN IN THE PHOTO
USING WOOD SCREWS.





#### **STEP 4:**

PLACE OVER PREPARED SOIL AND FILL WITH SOFT SOIL OR MULCH, PLANTING POTATOES 4 INCHES DEEP.





#### **STEP 5:**

WHEN THE VINES ARE ABOUT 12 INCHES ABOVE THE SOIL, ADD ANOTHER BOARD AND FILL WITH DIRT, BEING CAREFUL NOT TO COVER MORE THAN 1/3 OF THE PLANT.

REPEAT THIS UNTIL THE BOX IS COMPLETED.







#### STEP 6:

TO HARVEST YOUR POTATOES, REMOVE THE SCREWS FROM THE BOTTOM BOARD AND CAREFULLY REACH IN FOR THE POTATOES. REPLACE THE SOIL AND THE BOARDS. NEXT TIME YOU NEED POTATOES, REMOVE THE SECOND BOARD AND "ROB" SPUDS FROM THAT LEVEL.

# **Tips**

To make using a potato box even easier, here are a few tips I've discovered:



Cut larger seed potatoes in pieces, just make sure there's at least two eyes in each piece.



To protect cut seed potatoes, dust the open ends with fir dust. This prevents bacteria from spoiling your harvest.



Fertilize using an organic 10-20-20 fertilizer when planting and a few times throughout the season.



Keep a schedule to make sure plants are watered consistently. You don't want to drown your plants or let them dry out. A constant moisture level is very important when growing in the potato box.



Don't plant your box in the same place for consecutive years and fill the box with different soil each time to prevent disease.



The best potato varieties are Yellow Finn, Yukon Gold, Caribe, Red Pontiac and Red Lasoda.



Make sure to harvest the entire box once frost kills the tops of the plant.



For long term storage, let potatoes dry a bit and keep in a paper sack or basket in the garage.

## CONCLUSION



This little project can help you save a bundle on groceries and help feed your family during tough times.

Invite your kids to help with the project and teach them the value of selfsustainability.

Remember to send me any tips and feedback once you enjoy your first harvest!