

Protect soil with mulch

Completely bare soil is almost unheard of in nature. It is always covered with mosses, grasses, herbs and scattered plants. When the soil is exposed to wind, sun or rain, it suffocates in the surface layer. Frost penetrates deeply, paralysing underground growth.

Mulch creates a favourable microclimate by regulating temperatures, maintaining moisture and aerating the soil structure. This avoids hardening and waterlogging. Microorganisms find sufficient nutrition, produce nutrients and build up the humus layer.

Benefits for the gardener

- Less hoeing as the soil remains loose.
- Less weeding as fewer weeds will grow.
- Less watering as the soil loses less moisture.
- Less fertiliser, as sufficient humus and nutrients are produced.



Soil improvement

The golden rules of mulching

- Let damp green materials dry to prevent rotting and to avoid attracting slugs and snails.
- Mulch before cultivating or hoeing. Do not dig.
- Mulch in spring, two or three days before sowing to warm the soil.
- Spread evenly in a thin layer (approx. 5 cm thick).
- Spread thicker in winter (10 cm).
- Do not cover plants or shoots.
- Keep replacing the layer.
- Use mulch from the garden whenever possible.

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Mulch material	Application	Notes and tips
Cut grass	For all crops	Allow to dry (to avoid risk of rot!)
Weeds from the garden	Where they have been pulled up	Expose roots, without seeds
Medicinal and aromatic plants	For all crops	Improves soil and plant health
Nettles	Loved by earthworms	Improves humus quality
Comfrey leaves	Particularly good for growing tomatoes	Contains potassium
Tomato leaves	Tomatoes, cabbage	Repels cabbage butterflies
Dead leaves	Shrubs, hedges, trees	Also suitable for growing strawberries and berry bushes
Wood chips	Berry bushes, flowering shrubs. Do not apply to vegetable or herb beds	Best to use material from deciduous trees or shrubs
Semi-mature compost	Surface composting. Do not apply directly to roots	Covers soil to maintain moisture and regulate temperature
Straw and wood shavings	Growing strawberries	Not suitable for vegetable or herb beds



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