

# Project: IBC Wicking beds

Team Leader: Megan

Team Members:

Materials	Got them	Comment
IBC x2	Yes	
Bread crate x 4	Yes	
40/40mm PVC pipe	Yes	
13mm elbow	Yes	
13mm pipe	Yes	
Shadecloth	Yes	
13mm top hat grommet	Yes	
Scissors	Yes	
Silicon sealant	Yes	
Compost		
Acid mix		
Coir		
Rock Dust	Yes	
Mulch	Yes	Woodchips
Sulphur		
Blueberries	Yes	
Cane Barries	Yes	
Trellis	Yes	Needed for cane berries
Green manure	Yes	

Tools	Got Them	Comment
Angle Grinder	Yes	
Jigsaw	Yes	
Drill + 16mm bit	Yes	
Spirit Level	Yes	
Shovels	Yes	
Hose	Yes	

Possible conflicts with other projects:

IBC composter – angle grinder/jigsaw

Notes:

**IBC Wicking Bed Construction**

1. Level sites for wicking beds (this can be done in parallel with construction)
2. Take plastic bladder out of cage
3. Remove base from cage
4. Cut bladder in half (horizontal cut) with jigsaw
5. Cut cage in half with angle grinder with cutting disc fitted
6. Place the IBC in position and ensure it is level with a spirit level.
7. Add Silicone sealant to lid and tighten lid onto top half as tightly as possible (ensure rubber gasket even in lid before fitting and no grit in thread.)
8. Drill a 16mm hole close to the bottom of the IBC for the drain fitting (I'll show you where it needs to be – hole needs to be located where it can drain onto a perennial plant nearby)



Example done in blue barrel

9. Fit a 13mm top hat grommet into the hole
10. Push a length of 13mm poly pipe over one side of a 13mm elbow connector that is long enough to reach from the side of the IBC well into the middle.
11. Push this length through the top hat grommet so that the elbow is up against the side of the IBC
12. Fit another length of 13 mm poly that is 50cm long to the outside of the elbow. This will enable the IBC to be fully flooded if require to grow aquatic plants like water chestntus etc.



Example done in blue barrel-Internal length needs to be longer for IBC

13. Leak test the upturned half by filling with water and checking no water leaks through the lid or grommet



14. Place an upturned bread crate in the centre of each IBC wicking bed
15. Cover the bread crate with a double layer of shade cloth (tuck under the bread crate and secure with cable ties if necessary)
16. Push 13mm poly pipe through shade cloth so that it is under bread crate (so can't block with soil)
17. Fit a 50cm length of 40mm or 50mm PVC into the corner of the bread crate to act as a filler pipe. (Cut a small cross in the shade cloth and push it through)

18. Fill up around the sides and to 1cm above the top of the shadecloth on the breadcrate with gutless unimproved sand.



Example done in pool filter using ex filter sand/zeolite

19. Then add good mix (See below) on top leaving 10cm of plastic 'freeboard' to allow for mulch etc.



Example done in pool filter

