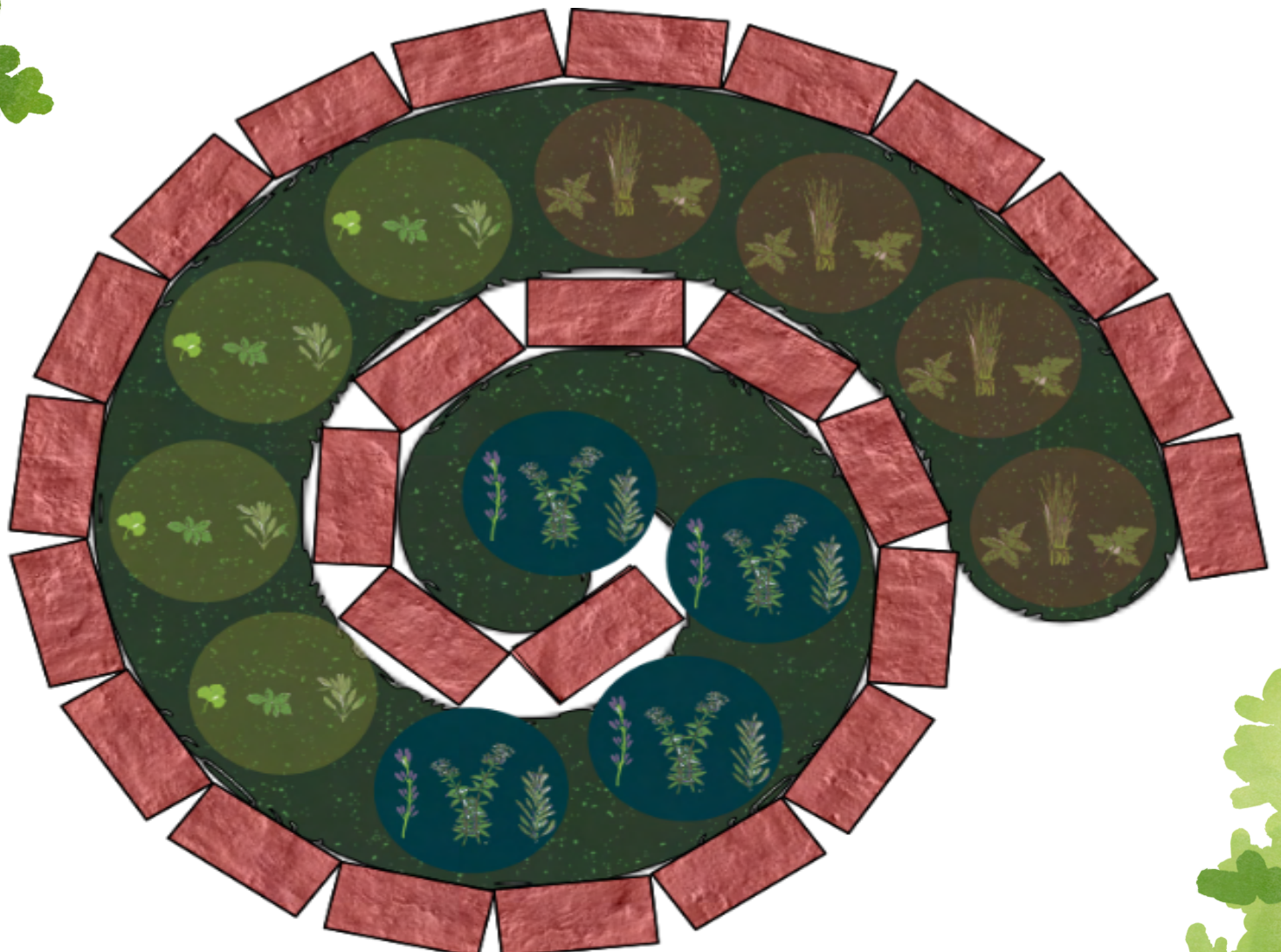




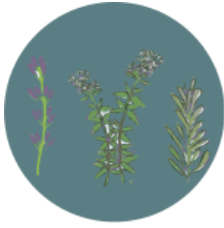
# Do It Yourself

## *Home Spiral Garden Blueprint*

FROM: [NEIGHBORHOODFARMSUSA.ORG](http://NEIGHBORHOODFARMSUSA.ORG)



# Garden Layers



## TOP:

Thyme, Lavender, and Rosemary. (Herbs that require sun and good drainage)



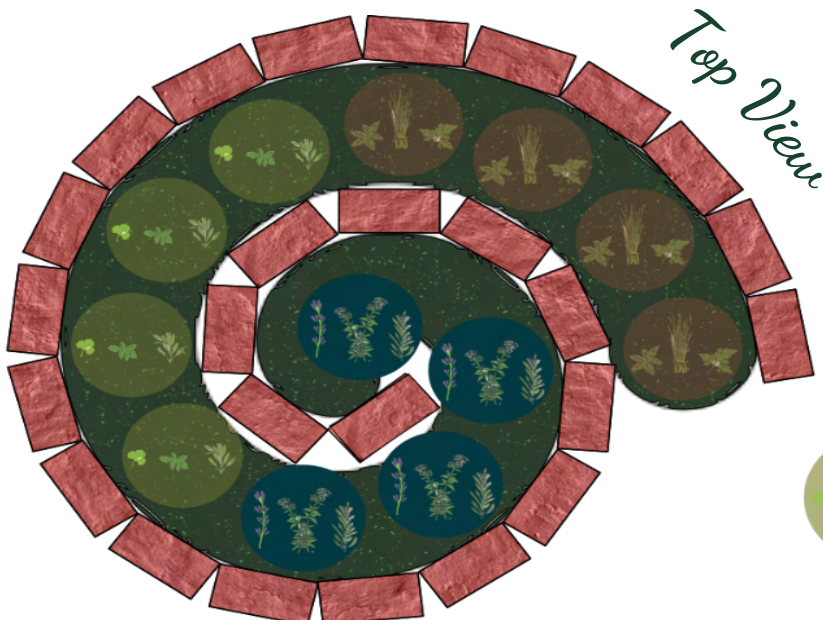
## MIDDLE:

Sage, Basil, and Cilantro. (Herbs that require moist soil conditions)



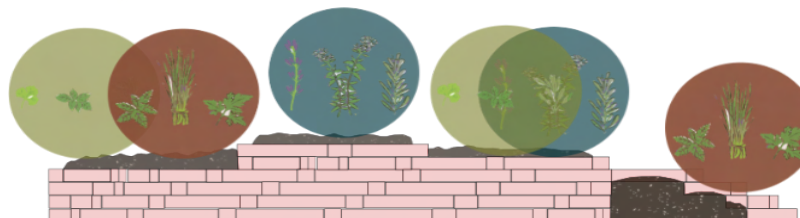
## BOTTOM:

Mint, Parsley and Chives. (Thirsty herbs)



*Top View*

*Front View*



# Spiral Garden Instructions

The charm of a spiral garden stems from its space-efficient design, easy accessibility, biodiversity enhancement, educational potential, and sheer beauty. By arranging plants in a vertical layered spiral configuration, these gardens maximize space utilization, making them particularly suitable for urban settings. Their accessible layout ensures that individuals of all ages and abilities can engage in gardening activities, while the varied growing conditions within the spiral foster biodiversity and attract beneficial insects. Spiral gardens double as outdoor classrooms, offering hands-on learning opportunities on gardening and environmental conservation. They also nurture a sense of community and cooperation, providing a shared space for residents to gather, socialize, and collaborate toward the common objective of crafting a stunning and productive garden.

## Steps

### 1. COLLECT MATERIALS:

- a. Aprox. ~125 bricks (for a brick herb spiral).
- b. Aprox. 1 yard garden soil mixed with compost.
- c. Aprox. 2-3 bags of mulch.
- d. Farmyard manure (optional).
- e. Cardboard (if building on grass or weedy area).
- f. Flour, bricks, or stones.
- g. Aprox. 4 of each plant in point 8.b.

### 4. DETERMINE DIMENSIONS:

- a. Standard herb spirals are 5 to 6.5 feet in diameter.
- b. Height can vary based on climate:
  - c. Temperate climate: 23 inches tall
  - d. Dry or hot climate: up to 40 inches tall
- e. Adjust height according to desired shade levels.

### 7. FILL WITH SOIL AND COMPOST:

- a. Fill the spiral with a 50/50 mixture of garden soil and compost.
- b. Ensure the soil is filled to within a couple of inches of the tops of the bricks.
- c. Smooth down the soil in a gradual slope and top with an inch or two of mulch (e.g., compost).

### 2. CHOOSE AN APPROPRIATE LOCATION:

- a. Find a spot away from trees and shrubs to avoid root competition.
- b. Ensure the area is fairly level. If on a slope, level the area for construction.
  - c. In case the desired spot has a lot of grass or weeds, use cardboard or garden material as a base.

### 5. DESIGN SPIRAL PATTERN ON GROUND:

- a. Mark the center of the spiral.
- b. Use flour, bricks, or stones to outline the spiral pattern.
- c. Ensure a minimum growing space of about one foot.
- d. Work in a clockwise direction in the Northern Hemisphere (reverse for Southern Hemisphere).

### 8. PLANT HERBS:

- a. Consider placing herbs strategically based on their sunlight and water requirements.
  - b. Example planting arrangement:
    - i. Top: Thyme, Lavender, and Rosemary. (Herbs that require sun and good drainage)
    - ii. Middle: Sage, Basil, and Cilantro. (Herbs that require moisture soil conditions)
    - iii. Bottom: Mint, Parsley and Chives. (Thirsty herbs)

### 3. DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:

- a. Determine the position of the sun to decide where to place the spiral.
- b. Lowest point of the spiral should be on the north side in the Northern Hemisphere.
- c. Optionally, plan for a small pond at the end of the spiral for added aesthetics and functionality.

### 6. CONSTRUCT THE SPIRAL:

- a. Lay the first layer of bricks or stones along the marked spiral pattern.
- b. Adjust brick placement based on desired steepness:
  - i. Steep spiral: every two and a half bricks
  - ii. Shallow spiral: every one or one and a half bricks

### 9. WATERING:

- a. Water regularly, especially during dry periods.
- b. Water from the top and bottom to ensure all plants receive adequate moisture.

### 10. MAINTENANCE:

- a. Monitor plant growth and adjust watering as needed.
- b. Trim and harvest herbs regularly to promote growth.

*Visit our website for more details!*

[www.neighborhoodfarmsusa.org](http://www.neighborhoodfarmsusa.org)