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# Greenhouse Internal Layout Plans

Simple layouts for residential gardens

7 size-specific plans + a larger seating option



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# Choose a layout you can use

A greenhouse works better when you can reach every plant. Start with a clear path, then add only the growing space you need.

| Plan | Nominal size     | Main use                                | Pages |
|------|------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------|
| A    | 6 x 4 ft         | Rear bench for seeds and herbs          | 5-6   |
| B    | 6 x 8 ft         | Two narrow staging runs                 | 7-8   |
| C    | 8 x 8 ft         | Deeper staging and a wider aisle        | 9-10  |
| D    | 8 x 10 ft        | Staging plus two compact floor crops    | 11-12 |
| E    | 10 x 12 ft       | Dual benches and larger containers      | 13-14 |
| F    | 12 x 16 ft       | Three crop strips and two paths         | 15-16 |
| G    | 6 x 4 ft lean-to | Narrow wall-side bench with an end door | 17-18 |
| F+   | 12 x 20 ft       | Extra front space for a chair           | 19    |

## How to read the plans

The size in each heading is the advertised footprint. Dimension lines show the smaller **clear working rectangle** used for the furniture layout. Measure your greenhouse before ordering staging. Feet and inches lead the dimensions, with metric equivalents beside them.

### A simple starting point

Use freestanding, braced staging and movable pots. Plan F adds low bed edging over existing soil. All layouts assume an installed greenhouse with a sound base, working doors and ventilation.

| Before setting out                                | Where to look |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Measure, adapt and prepare the floor              | Pages 3-4     |
| Staging height, bed detail and compost quantities | Page 20       |
| Water, ventilation and seasonal use               | Page 21       |
| Final check and reference notes                   | Page 22       |

# Make the dimensions fit your greenhouse

Product sizes vary. Base rails, corner posts and door gear can all reduce the space you can use.

- 1 Measure the actual clear space.** Take width and length readings at floor level and bench height. Check the narrowest points between posts and fittings. Record the clear door opening, threshold height, eaves height and full vent travel.
- 2 Use the working rectangle as a fit check.** Each drawing assumes a rectangle 4 in (102 mm) smaller than the named footprint in both width and length. This is a planning allowance, not a claimed frame thickness. A nominal 8 x 10 ft house is tested against 92 x 116 in (2337 x 2946 mm) clear space.
- 3 Keep the shown air gaps.** Most plans leave a further 2 in (51 mm) between staging or edging and the clear side or rear line. These gaps do not provide walking access. Keep trays and foliage away from the glass too.
- 4 Protect the path when space is smaller.** Reduce bench depth or remove a module before narrowing the route. Keep full-size pots, feet and braces inside the marked furniture strips. A drawing of an empty pot does not show the final plant spread.

## Worked width adjustment: Plan B

If your clear width is only 66 in, two 18 in benches and two 2 in gaps leave 26 in for the aisle. Use one 16 in bench instead. The original 28 in aisle is restored:

$$2 + 18 + 28 + 16 + 2 = 66 \text{ in}$$

Measure the frame and feet of the narrower bench. Keep the 18 in front apron and shorten the bench run if the actual clear length is below 92 in.

## Door and access assumptions

The freestanding plans show a centred front opening. Plan G shows an end opening. The blue door line marks the required clear gap, without specifying hinges or sliding gear. Use the actual door position and keep its whole swing clear. An offset or inward-opening door may need a shorter front bench.

The 28-30 in routes are for a single walking gardener. They are not wheelchair layouts. If wider access is needed, check the user's turning space, door and level approach together before choosing furniture.

Drawings are proportional diagrams. Use the written dimensions and measure on site. Do not scale a printout.

# Build the layout in a sensible order

Set everything out dry before fixing edging or filling containers. A roll of tape can save a misplaced bench.

- 1 Clear and check the base.** Remove loose pots and weeds. Sweep the floor and identify any water pooling after rain or watering. Keep door tracks and existing drainage openings clear.
- 2 Make a firm walking route.** Use sound existing paving where possible. On soil, prepare a compacted support layer suited to the ground and set stable, non-slip pavers on it. Keep the finished path even with the entrance approach where the greenhouse base allows. Base construction follows the greenhouse and paving suppliers' guidance.
- 3 Tape every footprint.** Mark the clear working rectangle, the door opening and each bench or bed outline. Walk the route while carrying a tray. Check reach to the back of every bench and bed.
- 4 Assemble the empty staging.** Choose braced freestanding units that fit the specified outside dimensions. Follow their assembly instructions, including braces, shelf clips and any approved anti-tip fixing. Set all feet on firm support and check for rocking.
- 5 Fit beds or floor containers.** For shallow beds over soil, use the detail on page 20. On hard flooring, use pots or planters deep enough for the crop. Keep the full outside footprint inside the marked growing strip.
- 6 Add water and plants last.** Keep hoses along a side or below staging. Add plants a few at a time and open every vent after the layout is filled. Leave enough room to remove a full tray or mature pot without shifting another bench.

## Keep weight off the glazing

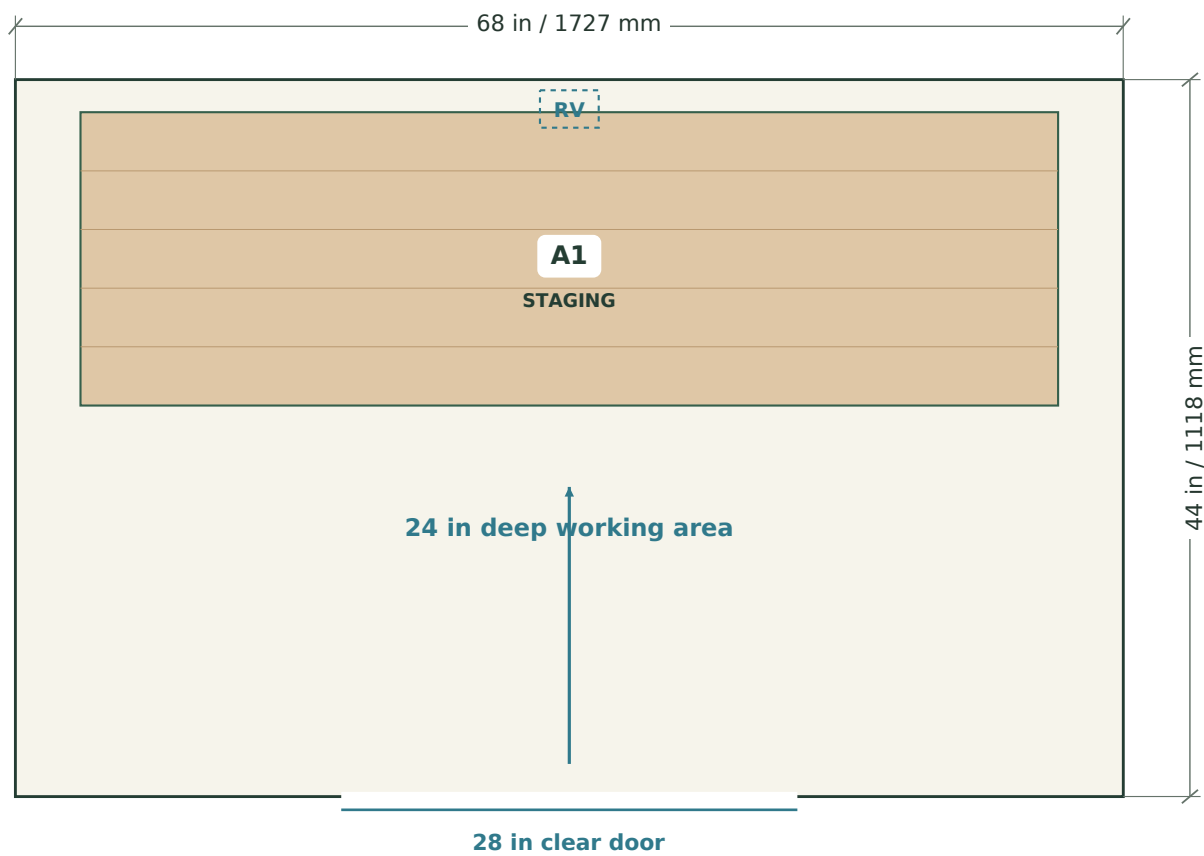
Staging and crop supports must carry their loads through suitable legs, feet or approved supports. Do not attach heavy shelves, water tanks or crop strings to glazing bars unless the greenhouse maker permits that exact load and fixing.

Useful tools: tape measure, masking tape or string, spirit level, screwdriver or spanner for the staging, gloves, brush and watering can. For bed edging, add the kit's required fixings and hand tools.

# 6 x 4 ft greenhouse

**Seed starting and herbs.** One shallow rear bench leaves the front open for potting and watering. This is a compact standing workspace for one gardener.

TOP VIEW / REQUIRED CLEAR WORKING RECTANGLE



Staging

Bed / crop strip

Floor pots

RV = roof vent above

| ID         | Element        | Outside size / clear gap | Metric equivalent |
|------------|----------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| A1         | Rear staging   | 60 x 18 in               | 1524 x 457 mm     |
| Open floor | Standing area  | 68 x 24 in               | 1727 x 610 mm     |
| Door       | Front, centred | 28 in clear              | 711 mm clear      |

**Width check:** 4 + 60 + 4 = 68 in across the rear bench

**Depth check:** 24 in working area + 18 in bench + 2 in rear gap = 44 in

Blue arrows show the route. RV marks a roof vent above the floor, with position shown only as a reminder. Match all vents and doors to your installed model. Detailed setup follows on the next page.

# Set up your 6 x 4 ft layout

| Gather these      | Quantity and size                                                                          |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Staging           | One 60 x 18 in unit, or two 30 x 18 in modules. Target height 34 in (864 mm).              |
| Growing supplies  | Three trays up to 15 x 9 in, three small herb pots and one removable potting tray.         |
| Water and storage | One small watering can, a max-min thermometer and a shallow box for tools under the bench. |

- 1 Mark the standing space.** Measure 24 in back from the front clear line. Tape this line across the floor. Keep the whole area in front of it free of furniture.
- 2 Fit the rear bench.** Set the bench 2 in from the rear clear line with 4 in at each end. With two modules, place their frames together inside the 60 in length. Check that no foot sticks into the working area.
- 3 Set a useful height.** Start around 34 in, then check the height against your elbows. Fit braces and levelling feet as the staging maker directs. Test the empty bench for rocking before adding trays.
- 4 Arrange the plants.** Line up three 15 x 9 in trays lengthways across 45 in of bench. Use the remaining 15 in for small herb pots. Leave the back part of the 18 in bench depth open where possible.
- 5 Keep potting temporary.** Bring the potting tray onto the bench only when needed. Store it upright underneath afterwards. Reserve the floor for your feet and the door route.
- 6 Test it with a watering can.** Stand inside, open the door fully and reach each tray without leaning on the glass. If the door opens inward, shorten or move the bench to clear its full swing.

## Start with these crops

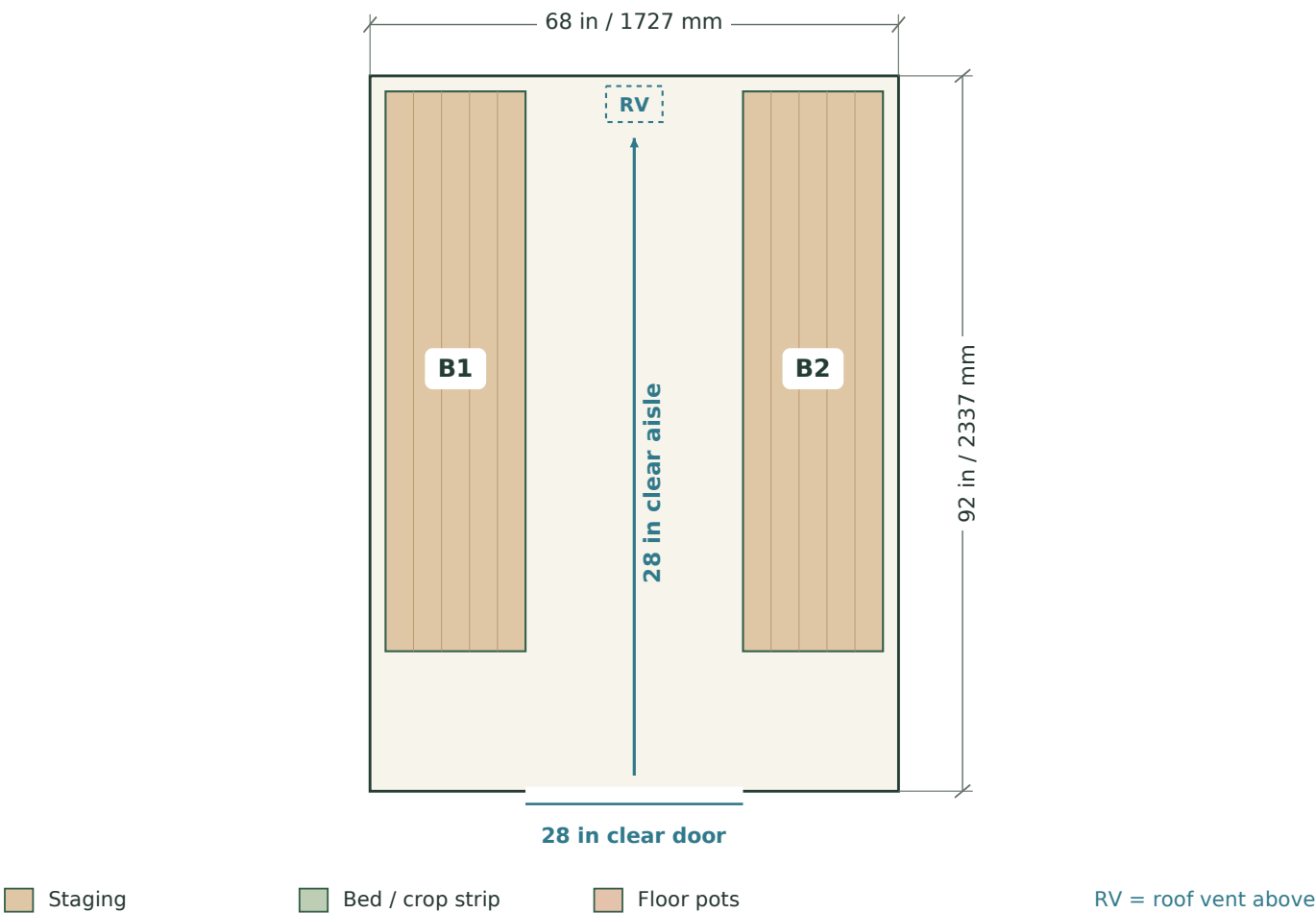
Start with parsley, chives and a few seed trays. Basil needs warm conditions. Move seedlings out to suitable growing space once they are ready, so the bench does not become crowded.

A 24 in deep standing area is tight. If you need more room, use a 14 in deep rear bench to gain 4 in. This layout has no turning circle for a wheelchair or trolley.

# 6 x 8 ft greenhouse

**Two narrow staging runs.** Two 18 in deep benches give seedlings and herbs their own space. A straight central aisle runs from the door to the back.

TOP VIEW / REQUIRED CLEAR WORKING RECTANGLE



| ID      | Element          | Outside size / clear gap | Metric equivalent |
|---------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| B1 / B2 | Two staging runs | Each 18 x 72 in          | 457 x 1829 mm     |
| Aisle   | Between runs     | 28 in clear              | 711 mm clear      |
| Door    | Front, centred   | 28 in clear              | 711 mm clear      |

**Width check:** 2 + 18 + 28 + 18 + 2 = 68 in

**Depth check:** 18 in entrance apron + 72 in staging + 2 in rear gap = 92 in

Blue arrows show the route. RV marks a roof vent above the floor, with position shown only as a reminder. Match all vents and doors to your installed model. Detailed setup follows on the next page.

# Set up your 6 x 8 ft layout

| Gather these      | Quantity and size                                                                         |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Staging           | Four 36 x 18 in modules, two end to end on each side. Target height 34 in.                |
| Growing supplies  | Four to six seed trays to begin with, small pots and one potting tray.                    |
| Floor and storage | A firm central route, a shallow tool box and watering can stored beneath the front bench. |

- 1 Tape the aisle first.** Mark two lines 28 in apart through the centre. Each line sits 20 in from its nearest side clear line. Keep the full space between these lines empty.
- 2 Leave the entrance apron.** Measure 18 in from the front clear line. Start both bench runs here. This wider area meets the aisle and helps you step in with a tray.
- 3 Assemble four modules.** Use 36 in long modules no deeper than 18 in. Assemble and brace them before moving them close to the glazing. Place two in each marked side strip.
- 4 Check the end gaps.** Each 72 in run finishes 2 in before the rear clear line. Leave 2 in at the sides too. These are air and cleaning gaps, not walking routes.
- 5 Divide the bench work.** Use one side mainly for seed trays. Keep the front of the other side for potting, with herbs behind it. Put spare pots underneath, away from louvres.
- 6 Try carrying a full tray.** Walk to the rear without turning your shoulders against the benches. If it feels cramped, change one side to 14 in deep staging. The aisle then grows to 32 in.

## Start with these crops

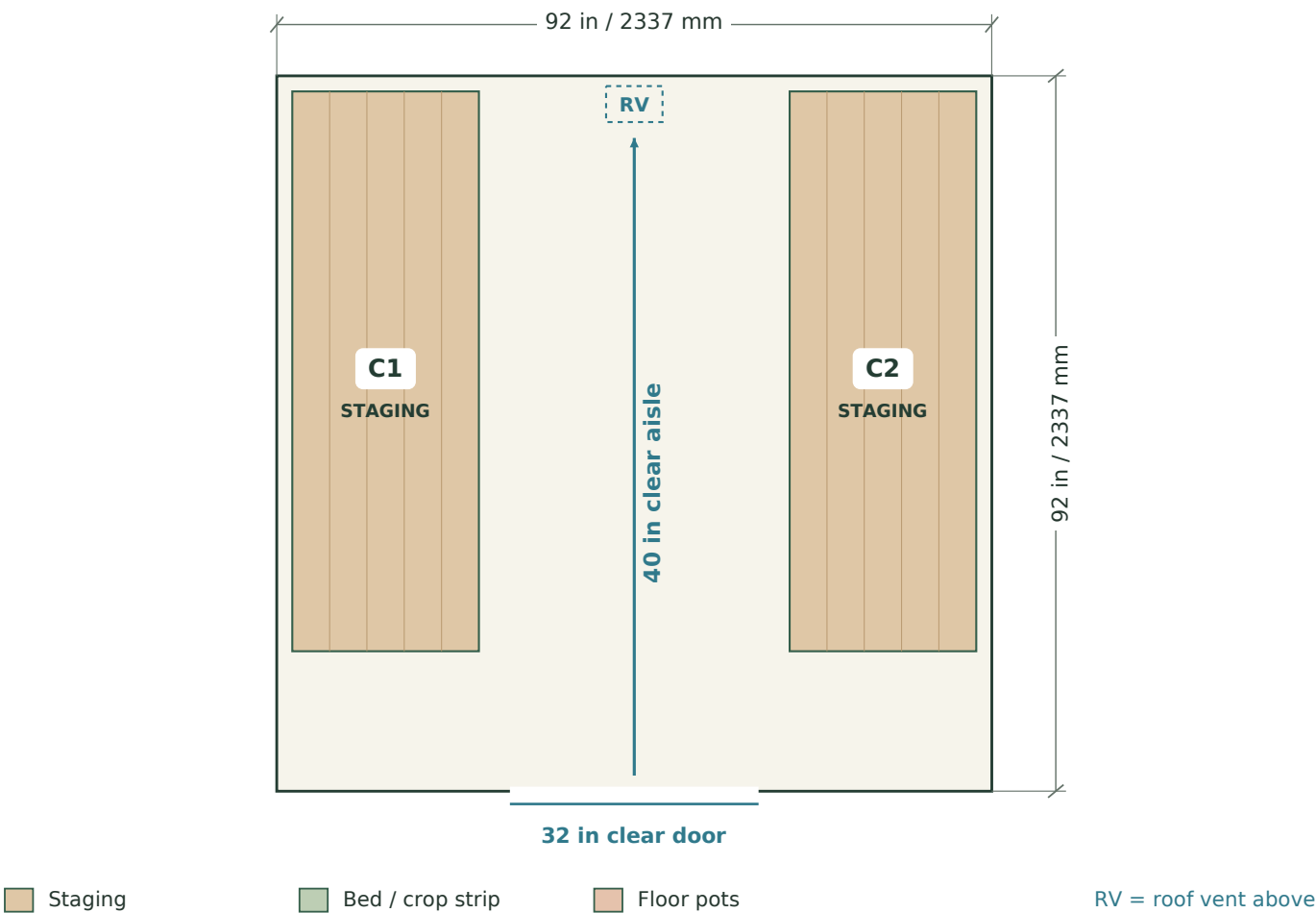
Use this layout for propagation and short crops. Choose compact herbs in separate pots. Tall tomatoes are a poor fit above fixed staging because their supports and foliage would crowd the aisle.

To make a summer floor crop area, remove one rear 36 in module. The resulting 18 x 36 in bay suits a modest pepper or dwarf tomato in a measured pot. Do not add the pot to the aisle.

# 8 x 8 ft greenhouse

**A roomier propagation house.** Deeper benches and a 40 in aisle make tray handling easier. Keep the rear modules removable for changing crops through the year.

TOP VIEW / REQUIRED CLEAR WORKING RECTANGLE



| ID      | Element          | Outside size / clear gap | Metric equivalent |
|---------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| C1 / C2 | Two staging runs | Each 24 x 72 in          | 610 x 1829 mm     |
| Aisle   | Between runs     | 40 in clear              | 1016 mm clear     |
| Door    | Front, centred   | 32 in clear              | 813 mm clear      |

**Width check:** 2 + 24 + 40 + 24 + 2 = 92 in

**Depth check:** 18 in entrance apron + 72 in staging + 2 in rear gap = 92 in

Blue arrows show the route. RV marks a roof vent above the floor, with position shown only as a reminder. Match all vents and doors to your installed model. Detailed setup follows on the next page.

# Set up your 8 x 8 ft layout

| Gather these     | Quantity and size                                                                            |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Staging          | Four 36 x 24 in modules with all legs inside the footprint. Target height 34 in.             |
| Growing supplies | Six to eight starter trays, a removable potting tray and a small collection of herbs.        |
| Basic fittings   | A max-min thermometer, watering can and trays that drain without dripping onto stored tools. |

- 1 Mark the central route.** Set out the 40 in aisle between lines 26 in from each side clear line. Check the door opens onto this route without a projecting handle or bench corner narrowing it.
- 2 Set the four modules.** Start both runs 18 in from the entrance. Leave 2 in at the outer sides and rear. Put adjoining module ends together so each run measures no more than 72 in.
- 3 Check your reach.** Try reaching the back of a 24 in bench while standing upright. If this is uncomfortable, use 18 in deep units and enjoy the extra aisle width.
- 4 Give potting its own spot.** Keep the front right 36 in module partly clear. Use the other three for trays and small pots. Put compost in a closed tub underneath rather than loose on the floor.
- 5 Keep the upper space open.** Begin with a single bench level. Add a narrow shelf only if the bench below still receives enough light and the shelf clears the roof vent throughout its travel.
- 6 Set the seasonal change.** For a summer crop, remove the rear right module and place one measured container in its 24 x 36 in floor bay. Refit the bench after the crop has finished.

## Start with these crops

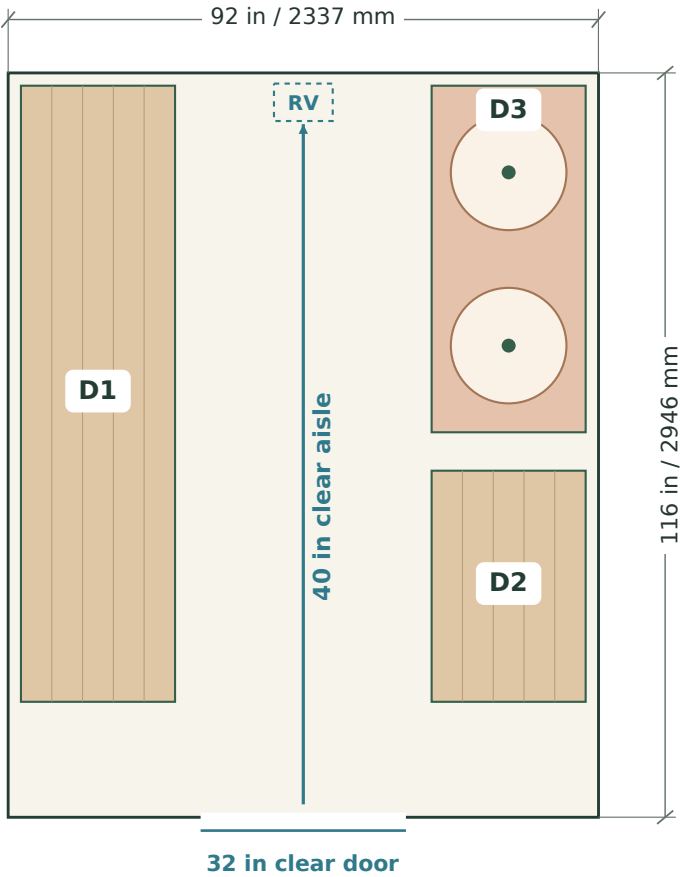
Seedlings can use both sides in spring. Later, move most trays outside at the right time for the crop and use the bench for herbs or young replacement plants.

A 40 in aisle is wider than the door shown here. It does not make the whole greenhouse wheelchair accessible. Match the door, threshold and turning space to the person who will use it.

# 8 x 10 ft greenhouse

**Staging with a summer crop bay.** A full left bench handles seed trays. A short right bench keeps potting close to the door, with two floor pots behind it.

TOP VIEW / REQUIRED CLEAR WORKING RECTANGLE



Staging

Bed / crop strip

Floor pots

RV = roof vent above

| ID           | Element        | Outside size / clear gap | Metric equivalent |
|--------------|----------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| D1           | Left staging   | 24 x 96 in               | 610 x 2438 mm     |
| D2           | Potting bench  | 24 x 36 in               | 610 x 914 mm      |
| D3           | Floor crop bay | 24 x 54 in               | 610 x 1372 mm     |
| Door / aisle | Clear widths   | 32 / 40 in               | 813 / 1016 mm     |

**Width check:** 2 + 24 + 40 + 24 + 2 = 92 in

**Depth check:** 18 + 36 in bench + 6 in gap + 54 in crop bay + 2 = 116 in

Blue arrows show the route. RV marks a roof vent above the floor, with position shown only as a reminder. Match all vents and doors to your installed model. Detailed setup follows on the next page.

# Set up your 8 x 10 ft layout

| Gather these     | Quantity and size                                                                                           |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Staging          | Two 48 x 24 in modules for D1 and one 36 x 24 in module for D2.                                             |
| Floor crops      | Two 30-40 litre pots, each no more than 18 in (457 mm) across including its tray. Use stable crop supports. |
| Growing supplies | Container compost matched to the crop, labels, soft ties and a watering can or short drip line.             |

- 1 Set the 40 in aisle.** Mark its edges 26 in from each side clear line. Fit the two left modules from 18 in to 114 in behind the front line.
- 2 Install the right bench.** Place the 36 in long bench in the matching front position. It ends 54 in behind the front line. Leave the next 6 in empty as a cleaning break.
- 3 Mark the crop bay.** D3 starts 60 in from the front and finishes at 114 in. Keep its full 24 in width inside the right strip, including saucers and supports.
- 4 Place the pots.** Set centres 78 in from the left clear line and 73.5 in and 100.5 in from the front. This gives 27 in (686 mm) between plants. Check the mature spread on the plant label.
- 5 Fit supports before growth.** Use supports suited to the chosen variety and pot. Keep them within the bay and below the glazing. Choose dwarf plants if the eaves are too low for taller growth.
- 6 Water without blocking access.** Route any supply line along the wall side of the crop bay. Hand water from the aisle. Remove standing drainage water and keep foliage out of the route.

## Start with these crops

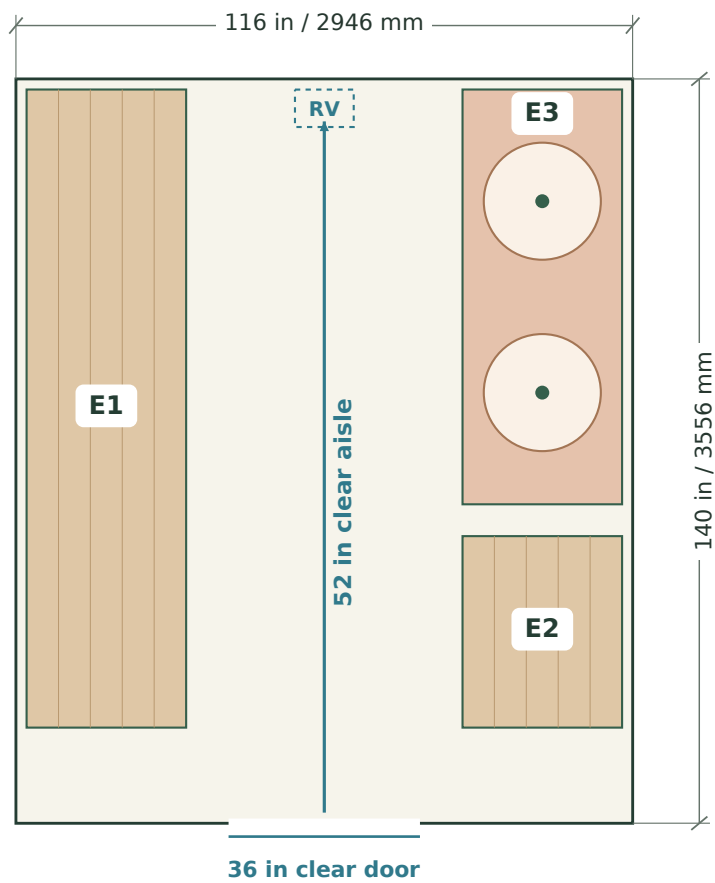
Two compact tomatoes or peppers are a sensible starting point. Give each its own pot. Use only one plant if the chosen variety will spread beyond the bay. The cover shows this style of arrangement.

For an all-staging version, replace D2 and D3 with two 48 x 24 in modules. For taller crops, remove D2 to extend the right floor zone and space plants for their mature size.

# 10 x 12 ft greenhouse

**Dual benches and larger containers.** A 52 in aisle leaves more room to work. Long left staging and a short right bench serve a separate rear bay for larger crops.

TOP VIEW / REQUIRED CLEAR WORKING RECTANGLE



Staging

Bed / crop strip

Floor pots

RV = roof vent above

| ID           | Element        | Outside size / clear gap | Metric equivalent |
|--------------|----------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| E1           | Left staging   | 30 x 120 in              | 762 x 3048 mm     |
| E2           | Potting bench  | 30 x 36 in               | 762 x 914 mm      |
| E3           | Floor crop bay | 30 x 78 in               | 762 x 1981 mm     |
| Door / aisle | Clear widths   | 36 / 52 in               | 914 / 1321 mm     |

**Width check:** 2 + 30 + 52 + 30 + 2 = 116 in

**Depth check:** 18 + 36 in bench + 6 in gap + 78 in crop bay + 2 = 140 in

Blue arrows show the route. RV marks a roof vent above the floor, with position shown only as a reminder. Match all vents and doors to your installed model. Detailed setup follows on the next page.

# Set up your 10 x 12 ft layout

| Gather these      | Quantity and size                                                                                          |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Staging           | Two 60 x 30 in modules for E1 and one 36 x 30 in module for E2. Shallower units are fine.                  |
| Floor crops       | Two 40 litre or larger containers with a measured footprint up to 22 in (559 mm) across, including trays.  |
| Support and water | Stable supports matched to the mature plants, soft ties, a thermometer and an edge-routed watering supply. |

- 1 Mark the wider aisle.** Set lines 32 in from each side clear line. The clear space between them is 52 in. Check the door and threshold before placing any furniture.
- 2 Place the left modules.** Fit the first from 18 to 78 in behind the front line, then the second from 78 to 138 in. Leave 2 in to the side and rear.
- 3 Keep a potting corner.** Place E2 in the front right strip, from 18 to 54 in behind the front. Leave 6 in behind it so compost and fallen leaves can be swept up.
- 4 Space the floor pots.** Set their centres 99 in from the left clear line and 81 in and 117 in from the front. The 36 in (914 mm) spacing suits a modest starting arrangement. Increase it for vigorous varieties.
- 5 Check full crop height.** Measure below the eaves and open roof vent. Put tall crops on the side that casts less shade on seedlings. Mirror the plan if local sun makes the other side more suitable.
- 6 Keep the aisle width in use.** Train plants within their bay and keep empty pots under staging. Recheck the route after the plants have filled out, not just on planting day.

## Start with these crops

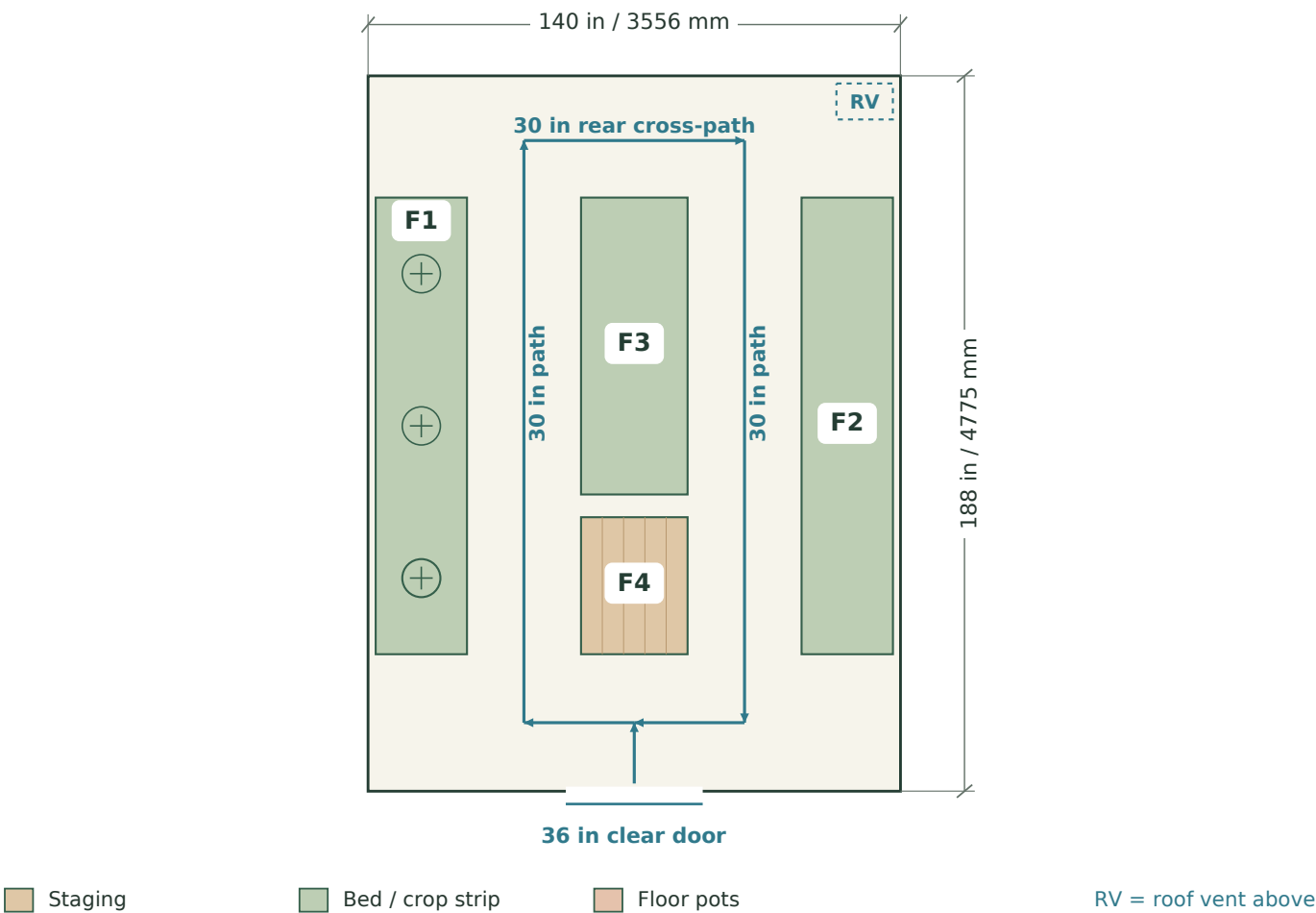
Try two trained cordon tomatoes if the greenhouse has enough height, or use compact peppers. A cordon is a tomato kept to one main stem. Provide its support before the plant becomes heavy. [3]

A 30 in bench is a long reach from one side. Store light, occasional-use items at its back or use 24 in units. Reducing both bench depths to 24 in increases the aisle to 64 in.

# 12 x 16 ft greenhouse

**Three growing strips and two paths.** Low side beds and a narrow centre bed keep crops within reach. Two paths join at the front and rear, with a small potting bench near the door.

TOP VIEW / REQUIRED CLEAR WORKING RECTANGLE



| ID           | Element            | Outside size / clear gap | Metric equivalent |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| F1 / F2      | Side bed outlines  | Each 24 x 120 in         | 610 x 3048 mm     |
| F3           | Centre bed outline | 28 x 78 in               | 711 x 1981 mm     |
| F4           | Potting bench      | 28 x 36 in               | 711 x 914 mm      |
| Door / paths | Clear widths       | 36 / 30 in               | 914 / 762 mm      |

**Width check:** 2 + 24 + 30 + 28 + 30 + 24 + 2 = 140 in

**Depth check:** 36 in entrance + 120 in growing zone + 30 in rear path + 2 = 188 in

Blue arrows show the route. RV marks a roof vent above the floor, with position shown only as a reminder. Match all vents and doors to your installed model. Detailed setup follows on the next page.

# Set up your 12 x 16 ft layout

| Gather these    | Quantity and size                                                                                                                |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Bed edging      | Two low edging kits with 24 x 120 in outside dimensions and one 28 x 78 in kit. Use 6 in high edging as a simple starting point. |
| Staging         | One freestanding bench no larger than 28 x 36 in, about 34 in high. Store the potting tray beneath it.                           |
| Floor and crops | Firm paths, three crop supports for F1 if needed and compost measured from actual bed interiors. Soil preparation is on page 20. |

- 1 Mark both walking routes.** Set out the width chain shown on page 15. The paths lie from 26 to 56 in and 84 to 114 in across the house. Reserve 36 in at the front and 30 in behind the beds.
- 2 Test the route around the centre.** Enter through the centred door, turn into either lane and walk around the rear of the centre bed. Keep the whole rear cross-path clear.
- 3 Fit the low side beds.** Set their outside edges within the marked 24 x 120 in outlines. They start 36 in behind the front line and finish at 156 in. Keep all pegs and brackets inside the bed outlines.
- 4 Add the centre bed and bench.** Place F4 from 36 to 72 in behind the front. Leave a 6 in cleaning break, then fit F3 from 78 to 156 in. The centre bed can be reached from both paths.
- 5 Prepare the soil and supports.** Over open ground, loosen the existing soil before adding compost. For F1, place three trained crop positions 40 in (1016 mm) apart at 56, 96 and 136 in from the front. Keep plant centres 14 in from the left line.
- 6 Plant with access in mind.** Use one side for taller trained crops and the other side and centre for lower plants. Mirror tall and low sides to suit the sun. Prune or reduce planting before foliage closes either lane.

## Start with these crops

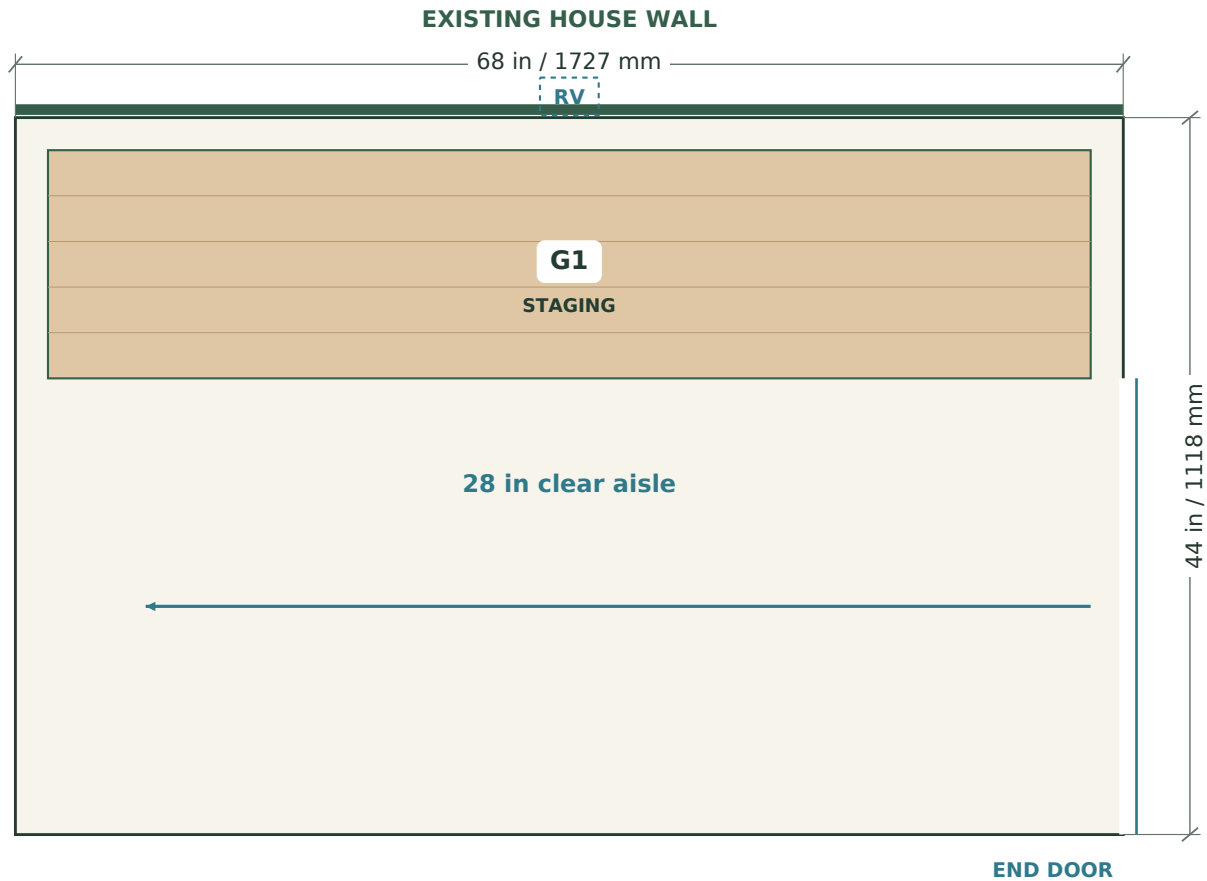
The drawing uses one row of three trained tomatoes in F1 as an example. F2 and F3 suit short crops such as lettuce, parsley or spring onions, with spacing taken from their packets. Beds can change crops between seasons.

These shallow beds assume usable soil underneath. On paving or a slab, replace them with measured containers or suitably deep planters inside the same outlines. The 12 x 20 ft option on page 19 adds a seating bay.

# 6 x 4 ft lean-to greenhouse

**A shallow bench along the wall.** Here, 6 ft runs along the house wall and 4 ft projects into the garden. A narrow rear bench preserves a 28 in route from an end door.

TOP VIEW / REQUIRED CLEAR WORKING RECTANGLE



Staging

Bed / crop strip

Floor pots

RV = roof vent above

| ID    | Element             | Outside size / clear gap | Metric equivalent |
|-------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| G1    | Wall-side staging   | 64 x 14 in               | 1626 x 356 mm     |
| Aisle | Along outer glazing | 28 in clear              | 711 mm clear      |
| Door  | Right end, shown    | 28 in clear              | 711 mm clear      |

**Width check:** 2 + 64 + 2 = 68 in along the wall

**Depth check:** 28 in aisle + 14 in bench + 2 in wall gap = 44 in

Blue arrows show the route. RV marks a roof vent above the floor, with position shown only as a reminder. Match all vents and doors to your installed model. Detailed setup follows on the next page.

# Set up your 6 x 4 ft lean-to layout

| Gather these     | Quantity and size                                                                                                 |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Staging          | One 64 x 14 in unit or two 32 x 14 in modules. Check the feet as well as the top. Start near 34 in high.          |
| Growing supplies | Three trays up to 15 x 9 in, a few small herb pots and a removable potting tray.                                  |
| Climate checks   | A max-min thermometer and access to the existing high vent and lower air opening. No fixed upper shelf is needed. |

- 1 Confirm which way the size runs.** Use this plan only when the 6 ft dimension is parallel to the wall. Measure the clear projection at bench height as well as on the floor because a sloping roof can reduce usable space.
- 2 Check the end door.** The drawing assumes a 28 in clear opening at the right end, aligned with the outer aisle. Use the model's sliding or outward-opening door. Mirror the layout for a left end door.
- 3 Mark the shallow bench.** Measure 28 in inward from the front clear line. The bench occupies the next 14 in, leaving a 2 in gap to the wall clear line. Leave 2 in at each end.
- 4 Fit freestanding staging.** Use braced units with no projecting feet. Keep damp trays and compost away from the house wall. Leave airbricks, service openings and any wall vents clear.
- 5 Arrange trays lengthways.** Place the long side of each tray parallel to the wall. Three 15 in trays use 45 in of the 64 in bench, leaving room for small pots and hand tools.
- 6 Check heat and headroom.** Open the roof vent fully and stand at each working position. A sun-warmed masonry wall may release some heat later, but the house can still overheat by day and become cold at night. [4]

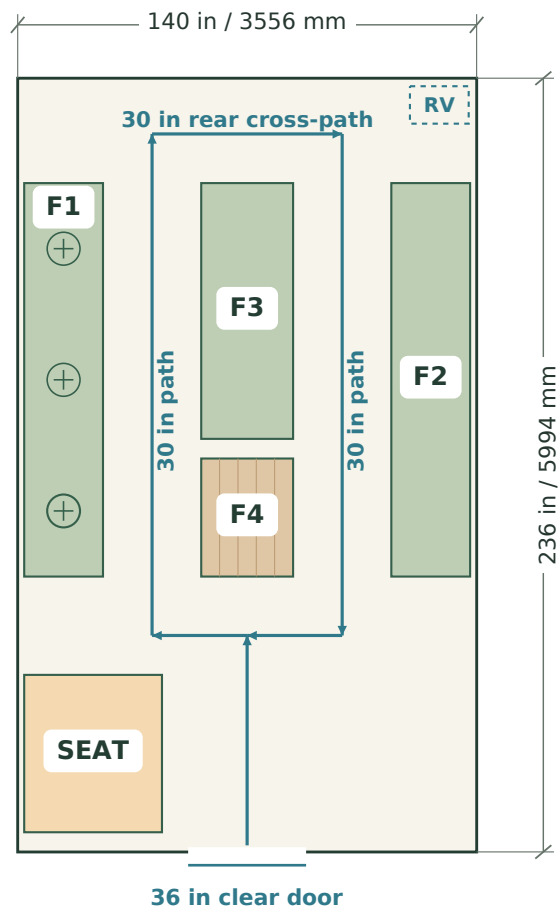
## Start with these crops

Use the bench for seedlings and small herbs suited to the measured light and temperature. Keep tall plants out of this shallow house. Move trays around if the wall shades one end.

If an actual end door cannot provide the shown opening, choose a long-front door model and redraw the access before buying staging. This plan assumes an already installed lean-to with sound wall connections and weather sealing.

# 12 x 20 ft | Room for a chair

Keep Plan F's growing strips and add 4 ft at the front. The extra space separates a small seat from the walking routes.



- Same width**  
Clear rectangle: 140 x 236 in (3556 x 5994 mm). Keep the two 30 in paths and the same bed widths.
- Longer entrance**  
The front apron grows from 36 to 84 in (2134 mm). Move every bed and the potting bench 48 in farther from the entrance.
- A measured seating bay**  
Reserve 42 x 48 in (1067 x 1219 mm) in the front left corner, including the person's legs. Use one small chair that fits this occupied footprint.
- Keep the turn clear**  
The seat ends 54 in from the front. Leave the next 30 in clear before the beds begin at 84 in. The main door route stays open beside the chair.

| Element              | Position measured from the front clear line               |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Side beds F1 / F2    | 84-204 in (2134-5182 mm)                                  |
| Potting bench F4     | 84-120 in (2134-3048 mm)                                  |
| Centre bed F3        | 126-204 in (3200-5182 mm)                                 |
| Rear cross-path      | 204-234 in (5182-5944 mm), then 2 in rear gap             |
| Occupied seating bay | Left edge 2 in, right edge 44 in. Front 6 in, back 54 in. |

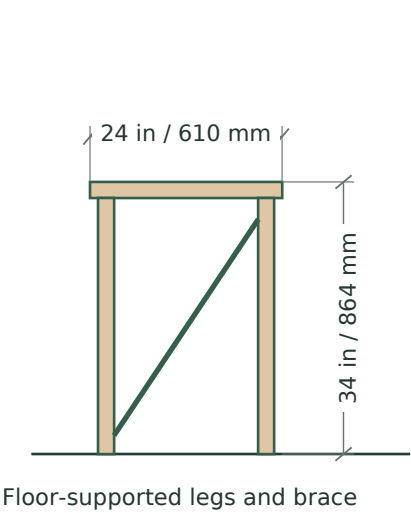
**Depth check:** 84 + 120 + 30 + 2 = 236 in. The seat sits within the front apron. Do not put a heater, water tank or another chair in the clear turning area.

For larger houses, keep bench and bed depths within reach and add length or separate bays. Leave clear access to vents and both ends of the beds.

# Staging height and low bed edging

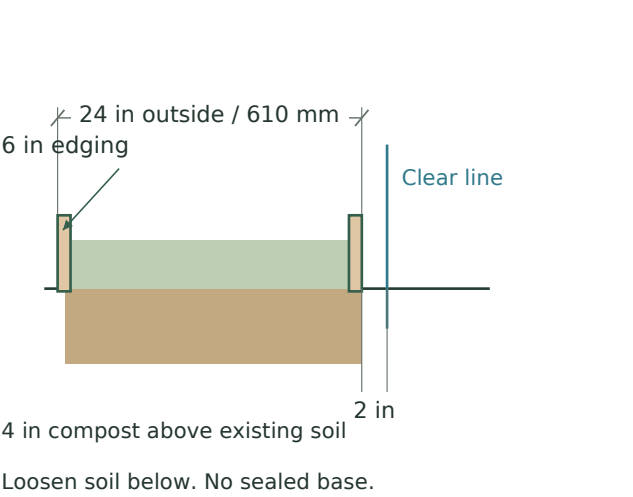
These details show how the fittings sit inside the layout. Choose staging with a stated load rating and use a bed kit with its own fixing instructions.

## STAGING: SIDE ELEVATION



Height shown is a starting point. Adjust for comfortable working. Other plan depths range from 14 to 30 in. Keep all feet inside the stated footprint.

## LOW BED: SECTION ACROSS A SIDE STRIP



Keep the finished growing surface below the edging. Soil must not touch the greenhouse frame or glazing. All stakes and corner brackets stay inside the bed outline.

## Prepare and fill the low beds in Plan F

Remove weeds, loosen compacted soil and check drainage before fitting the edging. Use sound timber or a ready-made kit suitable for garden beds. Choose material with no unknown preservative history. Fit each bed square, then check both diagonals are equal before filling.

The example below assumes 1 in (25 mm) thick edging, 6 in (152 mm) high, with a 4 in (102 mm) layer of compost above existing soil. That leaves 2 in below the board tops. Measure the actual inside sizes because kit wall thicknesses vary.

| Bed            | Example inside dimensions                  | 4 in layer           |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Two side beds  | Each 22 x 118 in (559 x 2997 mm)           | 170 litres each      |
| One centre bed | 26 x 76 in (660 x 1930 mm)                 | 130 litres           |
| Total          | Approx. 470 litres. Allow about 10% extra. | Buy about 520 litres |

**Calculation:** inside length (m) x inside width (m) x fill depth (m) x 1000 = litres. This is a soil-improving layer over usable ground, not the full root depth for a tomato plant. On a slab, use containers with their own drainage and enough compost depth for the crop.

Spread loaded trays evenly across staging. Keep heavy compost bags and large pots on the floor within their storage or growing bay. A 40 litre pot can be heavy when wet, so measure and place it before filling.

# Water, air and room to grow

A useful layout stays open after the plants grow. Check the route, light and air at each change of season.

## Keep the water supply at the edge

Hand watering is enough for these small layouts. Keep the can beneath the front bench and bring it into the aisle only while using it. If you add drip irrigation, route the supply along a side and take short branches into pots or beds. Clip tubing inside each growing strip so there are no loops across the floor.

Put a covered rainwater barrel outside on a level, load-suitable stand. Keep it away from the door approach and place its tap where you can reach it. Keep large filled barrels outside the growing space.

## Give vents room to open

Keep roof vents, side louvres and the doorway clear. Use a max-min thermometer at plant height, shaded from direct sun. Open vents before heat builds up and add suitable shading when ventilation alone cannot control the temperature. Automatic openers still need checks because they take time to respond. [2]

An unheated greenhouse does not guarantee frost-free winter growing. Match crops to the recorded temperatures and available light. In a hot climate, a closed glazed house may be too warm for the crops you want, so assess the site's ventilation and shading before filling it.

| When the use changes | Change the layout                                                                                                                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Seed starting        | Use one bench level first. Leave a potting space and move established seedlings out when suitable for the crop.                         |
| Warm-season crops    | Remove the planned bench module before bringing in tall containers. Fit supports first and keep the mature foliage out of the path.     |
| Cool-season growing  | Clear finished crops. Keep lower-light plants where they receive the best daylight. Reduce crowding and water to the compost condition. |
| Between crops        | Lift removable trays and pots. Sweep spilled compost, wash staging and check braces, door tracks and vent movement.                     |

## Leave spare capacity

Begin with fewer plants than the floor can hold. Add another tray only while you can still water, reach and carry plants through the door.

# Check the finished layout

Carry a full tray through the door and work your way to the farthest plant. The test should feel easy before the greenhouse is filled.

- ☐ The measured clear width and length meet the selected plan, or the furniture has been reduced to fit.
- ☐ Door swing, handles and tracks clear every bench and pot. The entrance route remains open.
- ☐ Paths stay at the stated clear widths, including the space taken by feet, braces, trays and foliage.
- ☐ Staging is level, braced and used within its stated load rating. It does not lean on the glazing.
- ☐ Every plant is within reach. Tall crop supports clear the roof and do not load unapproved frame members.
- ☐ Roof and side vents open fully. Tubing, stored bags and upper shelves do not obstruct them.
- ☐ Water drains without collecting in the walking route or against the house wall.

## Plan notes

These are original interior arrangement plans for existing residential greenhouses. The dimensions describe required clear space and maximum fitting footprints. They are not greenhouse frame, foundation or wall-connection construction drawings. Manufacturer instructions control those parts of the work.

## Further reading

[1] [RHS: Greenhouses, choosing](#)

Greenhouse size, site, eaves and ventilation choices.

[2] [RHS: Greenhouse ventilation and shading](#)

Managing heat, roof and side ventilation and automatic openers.

[3] [RHS: How to grow tomatoes](#)

Container growing and the difference between bush and cordon tomatoes.

[4] [Australian Government, Your Home: Thermal mass](#)

How brick and concrete absorb heat and release it later.

Sources consulted 9 September 2026. Layout dimensions and fitting choices are proposed by Gardening Latest, rather than copied from a greenhouse manufacturer.