# Foundation Bed Layout Plan

## Transform your bare lawn with this no-dig planting guide and shopping list.

Create a sweeping, weed-free border using the simple sheet mulching method. This guide walks you through prepping, edging, and perfectly spacing your new landscape.



### Key Bed Measurements

**6 ft**
bed depth fits both plant layers

**12-18 in**
siding air gap by mature spread

**6 in**
cardboard overlap blocks persistent lawn weeds

**4 in**
spade V-trench depth keeps grass out

**3 in**
hardwood mulch layer protects new roots

*Prevent crown rot*

*Pull fresh mulch at least two inches away from the woody stems of your shrubs to prevent trapped moisture and dangerous crown rot during rainy seasons.*

### From Bare Lawn to Lush

1. **Mark the front curve** Pull a tape measure straight out to your boundary points, lay a pliable hose, and paint.
2. **Cardboard, no digging** Cover grass with plain brown corrugated sheets, overlapping the edges, and soak immediately to smother turf.
3. **Edging? Just a spade** With damp soil, push the blade down at a 45-degree angle inward to sever tough roots.
4. **Plant by mature spread** Position evergreens based on their fully grown width to leave a permanent air gap against siding.
5. **Drifts of 3, repeated** Arrange foreground flowers in odd-numbered clusters along the curve, then cover the paper with dark mulch.

## Match Your Exterior Style

Find your row: **Your home's style**

| Your home's style | Your pick | Why |
|---|---|---|
| **Traditional stone masonry** | Pastel roses and sprawling catmint | Softens heavy traditional stone architecture |
| **Sleek modern minimalist** | Ornamental grasses and black rock | Highlights sculptural shapes and textures |
| **Lush tropical shade** | Oversized hosta leaves and ferns | Brings vibrant texture to sun-starved walls |
| **Drought-tolerant desert** | Structural agave and pea gravel | Creates a stunning water-wise border |

## Site Checks Before Planting

- ○ Check the roof overhang's rain shadow to ensure roots receive natural rainfall.
- ○ Evaluate low windows to avoid fast-growing shrubs that require constant, exhausting pruning.
- ○ Verify the ground beneath the cardboard is thoroughly soaked before trenching.
- ○ Inspect boxes to completely remove packing tape, staples, and glossy printed inks.

## Bed Project Shopping List

- ☐ 120 square feet of plain brown corrugated cardboard
- ☐ 1.5 cubic yards of dark hardwood mulch
- ☐ 4 rounded evergreen shrubs for the background
- ☐ 12 vibrant violet salvia plants for the foreground
- ☐ Landscape spray paint to mark the boundary
- ☐ Half-moon edger or sharp garden spade

## Garden Planning Notes

Enjoy your beautiful, weed-free foundation bed that perfectly complements your home's unique architecture!