

## TOOLS

Spade  
Tin Snips  
3-pound sledgehammer  
Garden rake  
Garden hose  
Tampers  
Safety goggles  
Work gloves

## MATERIALS

Edging  
Stakes  
Couplers



- 1** With a spade, dig a trench along the edges of the bed to a uniform depth of 3 to 4 inches -- enough to let the edging stand at least 1/2 inch above ground level. Dig straight down to create a vertical "wall" that will support the edging.

**2**

- Place the edging in the trench and bend it to follow the contours of the bed. Fill low spots with soil, packing it down firmly.



**3**

- Trim strips of edging to length, if necessary, with tin snips. Or, cut strips to size with pruning shears, scissors, or a utility knife. To make joints less noticeable, place them away from corners, sharp bends, and angles.

**4**

- To join strips of edging, slide a coupler halfway into one of the top channels. Pinch the first strip to hold the coupler in place and fit it into the second strip.



**5**

- Anchor the edging with stakes at 3- to 4-foot intervals. Drive each stake at a slight angle through the lower outside edge.

**6**

- Backfill behind the edging with soil, forcing the edging against the wall of the trench.



**7**

- Pack down the backfilled soil by tamping with your feet or watering with a garden hose. Add soil to fill in low spots, then rake the bed smooth.

