

MULCH COVERAGE CHART

Sixteen bed sizes at five depths, in cubic yards, with the bag count and the delivered weight underneath.

Mulch is sold two ways and they do not compare easily. Bulk is by the cubic yard, delivered on a truck. Bagged is in 2 cubic foot bags, and it takes 13.5 of them to make one cubic yard.

Depth is what people get wrong. Two to three inches is the right depth for a bed, deep enough to hold moisture and stop weeds, shallow enough that the roots underneath still breathe.

Cubic yards by bed size and depth

Bed area	1 in	2 in	3 in	4 in	6 in
50 sq ft	0.15	0.31	0.46	0.62	0.93
100 sq ft	0.31	0.62	0.93	1.23	1.85
150 sq ft	0.46	0.93	1.39	1.85	2.78
200 sq ft	0.62	1.23	1.85	2.47	3.7
300 sq ft	0.93	1.85	2.78	3.7	5.56
400 sq ft	1.23	2.47	3.7	4.94	7.41
500 sq ft	1.54	3.09	4.63	6.17	9.26
600 sq ft	1.85	3.7	5.56	7.41	11.11
800 sq ft	2.47	4.94	7.41	9.88	14.81
1,000 sq ft	3.09	6.17	9.26	12.35	18.52
1,250 sq ft	3.86	7.72	11.57	15.43	23.15
1,500 sq ft	4.63	9.26	13.89	18.52	27.78
2,000 sq ft	6.17	12.35	18.52	24.69	37.04
2,500 sq ft	7.72	15.43	23.15	30.86	46.3
3,000 sq ft	9.26	18.52	27.78	37.04	55.56
5,000 sq ft	15.43	30.86	46.3	61.73	92.59

Cubic yards of mulch. One cubic yard covers about 108 square feet at 3 inches deep, or 162 square feet at 2 inches.

Bags and weight at 3 inches deep

Bed area	Yards at 3 in	2 cu ft bags	Weight
50 sq ft	0.46	7	370 lb (0.19 tons)
100 sq ft	0.93	13	741 lb (0.37 tons)
150 sq ft	1.39	19	1,111 lb (0.56 tons)
200 sq ft	1.85	25	1,481 lb (0.74 tons)

Bed area	Yards at 3 in	2 cu ft bags	Weight
300 sq ft	2.78	38	2,222 lb (1.11 tons)
400 sq ft	3.7	50	2,963 lb (1.48 tons)
500 sq ft	4.63	63	3,704 lb (1.85 tons)
600 sq ft	5.56	75	4,444 lb (2.22 tons)
800 sq ft	7.41	100	5,926 lb (2.96 tons)
1,000 sq ft	9.26	125	7,407 lb (3.7 tons)
1,250 sq ft	11.57	157	9,259 lb (4.63 tons)
1,500 sq ft	13.89	188	11,111 lb (5.56 tons)
2,000 sq ft	18.52	250	14,815 lb (7.41 tons)
2,500 sq ft	23.15	313	18,519 lb (9.26 tons)
3,000 sq ft	27.78	375	22,222 lb (11.11 tons)
5,000 sq ft	46.3	625	37,037 lb (18.52 tons)

At 3 inches deep. Weight is for a dry hardwood mulch at roughly 800 pounds a cubic yard. Wet mulch, and mulch that has been sitting in a pile through rain, weighs considerably more.

Every figure on this sheet was produced by the same calculator that runs at contractorhandbook.com, free and with no signup.

These are estimating figures for ordering and pricing, not engineering. Nothing here sizes a structural member, checks a load, or replaces local code, a permit, or a manufacturer's installation instructions. Where a rule of thumb is doing the work it is written into the notes under each table rather than hidden.