

# What Is A Cubic Yard?



1 cu. yd. in front loader bucket



1 cu. yd. of mulch

A cubic yard is one yard cubed, or twenty seven cubic feet. It is the standard measurement that Upstate Mulch uses for selling bulk landscaping materials. Bulk materials are materials that are sold in large quantity. In regard to landscaping materials, bulk materials are normally sold loose, not in bags. For instance, at Upstate Mulch there are large bins of various mulches, soils, sand and stone products. When purchased, these materials are loaded with a large front-loader bucket into the customer's truck or trailer. In the above left photo, you can see the mounded front loader bucket which contains a full cubic yard. The accepted standard of measurement in the mulch industry is the cubic yard. However, some mulch dealers sell by the "scoop", which can be of various sizes. Many of these "scoops" are a good deal smaller than a cubic yard, and the buyer should beware when comparing prices.



10 cu. yd. as compared to a 6 ft. tall man

The photo in the above top right photo shows one cubic yard of mulch, while the photo directly above shows ten cubic yards of mulch (as compared to a man that is six feet tall). Two cubic yards of mulch will fill a standard sized pick-up truck bed. When spread, one cubic yard covers 162 square feet of ground if applied two inches thick. Likewise, two cubic yards will cover 324 square feet of ground two inches thick, and ten cubic yards will cover 1620 square feet of ground two inches thick.

To calculate the number of cubic yards required for your next landscaping project, simply click on our website Material Calculator and plug in your square footage and the thickness (depth) you desire your mulch to be applied. The Material Calculator will quickly determine the proper cubic yardage you will need and will help you to avoid coming up short or buying excessive material. The cubic yard is a valuable unit of measurement to help assure that you are getting the value you expect when purchasing landscaping materials.

*This information was compiled courtesy of Upstate Mulch Products and Services, Inc.*

**[www.upstatemulch.com](http://www.upstatemulch.com)**  
**Customer Service 864.269.2275**  
**Toll Free: 1.866.388.6253**

**UM Upstate  
Mulch**  
**PRODUCTS and SERVICES, INC.**

