



Planting dates and growing tips

The planting dates are approximate and generally based on the warming and temperature of the soil.

Because there are *'new and improved'* hybrids of many of these plants developed each year, more detailed information should be taken from the seed packets as to actual timing and planting specifications in your area.

As you plan which foods that you'd like to grow in your garden, remember to take the following into account:


Vegetable Type	Plant Indoors	Plant in Garden	Seed Spacing P = Plant R = Rows	Seed Depth	Maturity	Comments
Asparagus 	n/a	Early Spring	P=12" R=3-4'	2-3"	Second year	Normally sold and planted as "crowns". Soak crowns for 3 hours prior to planting. Apply a superphosphate fertilizer (0-20-0) before planting. Do not harvest the first year. Apply a heavy mulch in winter.
Avocados 	Anytime	Tree	P=10'	2-3"	3-5 years	Avocado seeds are also easily sprouted in a well drained 4 or 5 inch pot of porous, fertile soil.
Beans-Bush	n/a	May	P=4" R=18-24"	1 ½"	60 days	Harvest when young and tender. Plant a fall vegetable in this area after harvest.
Beans-Pole	n/a	May	P=36" R=48"	1 ½"-2"	60 days	Plant 4-6 seeds around a 6-8 inch pole or use a trellis
Beets	n/a	April & again in June	P=4" R=18"	½"	40-70 days	Thinned plants and beet tops may also be eaten. Dig and store in a cool place prior to the first freeze.

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Broccoli 	n/a	April-May	P=24" R=30-36"	½"-1"	4-5 months	Harvest the main Broccoli heads before they open. The plant will reproduce and extended crop of smaller heads through the rest of summer.
Brussels Sprouts	n/a	Plants: early spring Seeds: late June	P=18-24" R=3'	¼"	90 days	Cool season crop. Harvest when small 1-2", will survive light frost.
Cabbage	Feb- March, Into garden in May	April	P=24" R=24-36"	½"	4-5 months	Requires a soil pH of 5.5 or higher. Feed with a high nitrogen fertilizer every 4 weeks.
Carrots	n/a	April & again in July	P=2-4" R=18-24"	½"	90 days	Plant early, harvest when young. Sow successive plantings every three weeks.
Cauliflower	Jan-Feb Into garden in May	May	P=15" R=24"	½"	4-5 months	Won't tolerate high temperatures, harvest before the head opens up. Sow seeds for a second crop in May.

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Corn (Sweet)	n/a	May – successive plantings every 2 weeks	P=3” R=24”	1”	2-3 months	Should be planted closely together in blocks rather than rows to insure good pollination. Corn is at its very sweetest the moment it is picked.
Cucumbers	n/a	May-June	P=36-48” R=36-48” 3-4 plants/mound	1”	2-3 months	Spread a mulch of black plastic to the area before the vines begin to spread. Prompt harvesting will prolong the fruiting period.
Eggplants	Feb-Mar garden in May	2 weeks after last frost	P=24” R=36”	1/4”	4-5+ months	Use bedding plants in short season areas, Needs excellent drainage and warm soil.
Gourds	n/a	Last Frost	P=12”	3/4”	120-180 days	Gourds have a long growing season so you will want to get them started as early as possible.
Horseradish	n/a	Early Spring	P=4’	2”	First Fall	Normally sold as a root cutting. Plant roots at slight downward angle. Requires moist, rich, organic soil. May become a weed.
Kiwi	n/a	Set plants in early Spring	Plant male vine and female vine one foot apart	Node at ground level	Second Year	Kiwi vines are dioecious (male and female flowers are borne on separate plants). Vines of both sexes must be grown to ensure pollination.
Lettuce 	Feb-March. Set in garden in early April	April	P=8-12” R=18-24”	¼”	70-90 days	Grows best in the cool temperatures of spring and fall. Needs very rich soil and lots of moisture. Plant successive crops every two weeks until the end of April.

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Okra	n/a	2 weeks after last frost	P=12" R=3-4'	1/2"	50-75 days	Harvest when young (2-3") Harvest often to encourage production Choose fast maturing varieties
Onions	Feb/Set in garden in April	Plant onion sets in April	P=3" R=12-18"	1/2"	Seeds 3-4 months sets 50-60 days	Plant as early as possible. Apply a fertilizer high in phosphorus and potash. Onion sets may also be grown in planters.
Peas 	n/a	April – Successive plantings every 2 weeks	P=3-6" dbl row R=72"	1 1/2"-2"	60 days	Do best in cool temperatures, so plant early and harvest when the peas are young
Peppers	Feb-Mar Set in garden in May	May	P=24" R=24"	1/2"	4-5 months	Do not provide too much nitrogen or you'll have lots of plant, little fruit. A black plastic mulch will warm the soil and promote good growth
Potatoes	n/a	April/May	P=8" R=36"	3-6"	90-150 days	Plant a chunk of a "seed" potato, containing 2 or more eyes. Harvest when the vine begins to die or has died completely. Leave the potatoes laying on the ground for a day to harden them and prevent bruising.
Pumpkins	n/a	May	P=6-8" R=36"	3-4"	4-5 months	Pumpkins take up a lot of room, so sometimes it is better to plant them outside of the garden. Will tolerate a small amount of shade.
Radishes		April	P=1-3" R=18-24"	1/2"	30 days	Plant radishes early. They will go to flower when the warm temperatures arrive.
Raspberry	n/a	Late Fall early Spring	P=2' R=7-8'	2' deeper than current depth	Early Summer	Ever bearing varieties produce early summer crop on the previous season's growth and a fall crop on the current season's growth.

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Rhubarb	n/a	Early Spring	P=24" R=24-36"	¼"	Second Spring	Ready to harvest early in Spring. Rhubarb likes soil high in organiz material. Keep the bloom spikes cut off. Easily dividable.
Spinach	n/a	April	P=6" R=12-18"	1/2"	90 days	Soil pH should be between 6.0-6.7. Apply nitrate of soda between the rows to stimulate growth. Harvest spinach when young or the plants will go to seed.
Squash	n/a	May-June	P=36" R=36" 3-4 plants per mound	1/2"-1"	4-5 months	Grows well in warm areas, prefers rich organic soil.
Strawberries	n/a	Late Fall/Early Spring	P=18" R=18"	Plant Crown	Varies	Strawberries are easy to grow, perennial, winter hardy, and thrive in full sunshine.
Tomatoes	March	May	P=30-36" R=30-36"	1/2"	4-5 months	Provide frost protection when first planted. Tomato plants may be trained on stakes, grown in cages, or allowed to crawl along the ground. Tomatoes will ripen after they have been picked.
Watermelons 	n/a	May	P=72" R=72" 1-2 plants per mound	1"	4-5 months	Do best in sandy soil with pleny of added manure. Top dress with high nitrogen/potash fertilizer. Needs warm temperatures to mature.