

# Seed Starting Information Chart



LAST FROST DATE FOR YOUR ZONE

CROP	GERM. TEMP.(F)	TIME TO EMERGENCE	SEED START DATE	GROWTH PERIOD	OUTDOOR PLANTING TIME	PLANTING DATE IN GARDEN	NOTES
* Indicates crop that needs light to germinate, do not cover these seeds	Ideal soil temperature for germination	When you can expect sprouting in ideal conditions	Calculate by subtracting "Growth Period" from "Planting Date in Garden"	Length of time between seed starting and outdoor planting	When it is safe to plant outside in garden	Calculate by adding or subtracting "Outdoor Planting Time" from Last Frost Date	
BASIL	75-85°	5-10 Days		6 Weeks	2 Weeks After		
BEANS	75-85°	8-10 Days	DIRECT SOW ONLY		At Last Frost		
BEETS	65-85°	7-14 Days	DIRECT SOW ONLY		3 Weeks Before		Each beet "seed" is a pod that contains multiple seeds. Plant one and thin later.
BROCCOLI	60-85°	10-14 Days		6 Weeks	3 Weeks Before		
BRUSSELS SPROUTS (FALL CROP)	45-85°	7-12 Days		6 Weeks	10 Weeks Before First Fall Frost		Brussels sprouts require a long, cool growing season (90-120 days at 70°). For most locations, Brussels are a fall crop.
CABBAGE	60-85°	5-7 Days		6 Weeks	3 Weeks Before		
CARROTS	65-85°	14-21 Days	DIRECT SOW ONLY		3 Weeks Before		Keep soil moist to avoid soil crusting. Carrot sprouts are too small to break through.
CAULIFLOWER	65-85°	8-10 Days		6 Weeks	At Last Frost		
CELERY*	70°/85°	14-21 Days		10 Weeks	3 Weeks Before		Celery likes cooler nighttime temperature for germination. Ideal is 70° night, 85° day
CHINESE CABBAGE	65-85°	7-10 Days	DIRECT SOW ONLY		5 Weeks Before		
CILANTRO	55-70°	7-10 Days	DIRECT SOW ONLY		3 Weeks Before		
CORN	65-95°	10-14 Days	DIRECT SOW ONLY		At Last Frost		Soak in water for 6-8 hours before planting.
CUCUMBER	65-95°	3-10 Days		3 Weeks	At Last Frost		Cucumber can also be direct sown in mild and warmer climates
DILL	60-70°	7-10 Days	DIRECT SOW ONLY		3 Weeks Before		
EGGPLANT	75-85°	7-14 Days		8 Weeks	2 Weeks After		
GARLIC	65-85°	4-20 Weeks	DIRECT SOW ONLY		At First Fall Frost		Garlic "seeds" are garlic cloves that must be overwintered in the ground.
KALE	45-75°	5-8 Days		6 Weeks	3 Weeks Before		Prefers direct sow, but can be started ahead.
KOHLRABI	40-85°	3-10 Days		6 Weeks	3 Weeks Before		
LEEKs	65-80°	7-10 Days		12 Weeks	2 Weeks Before		
LETTUCE*	60-75°	3-12 Days		6 Weeks	4 Weeks Before		Prefers direct sow, but can be started ahead.
MELONS	75-85°	4-10 Days		4 Weeks	2 Weeks After		
OKRA	85-95°	2-12 Days		4 Weeks	2 Weeks After		Soak in water for 6-8 hours before planting. Can also direct sow in warmer climates.
ONIONS (FROM SEED)	65-85°	7-10 Days		12 Weeks	3 Weeks Before		Onions can also be grown from onion sets.
PAC CHOI	55-70°	10-21 Days		6 Weeks	At Last Frost		
PARSLEY	50-85°	14-21 Days		10 Weeks	2 Weeks Before		
PARSNIPS	50-85°	14-30 Days	DIRECT SOW ONLY		3 Weeks Before		Parsnip seeds need to be purchased or saved fresh yearly. Older seeds will not germinate.
PEAS	50-75°	10-14 Days	DIRECT SOW ONLY		Workable Soil		Soak in water for 6-8 hours before planting.
PEPPERS	65-95°	5-7 Days		10 Weeks	2 Weeks After		
POTATO	60-75°	14-28 Days	DIRECT SOW ONLY		3 Weeks Before		Potatoes are grown from pieces of saved or purchased seed potatoes.
RADISH	55-75°	3-5 Days	DIRECT SOW ONLY		4 Weeks Before		Radishes grow quickly and take up little space, so grow them wherever there is an opening in the garden.
SPINACH	40-75°	5-9 Days		4 Weeks	6 Weeks Before		Prefers direct sow, but can be started ahead.
SQUASH	70-90°	6-12 Days		4 Weeks	2 Weeks After		Can also be direct sowed in mild climates.
SWEET POTATOES	60-85°	—	DIRECT SOW ONLY		2 Weeks After		Grown from small plants called "slips".
SWISS CHARD	65-85°	5-10 Days		4 Weeks	2 Weeks Before		Prefers direct sow, but can be started ahead.
TOMATILLOS	65-85°	5-10 Days		8 Weeks	1 Week After		
TOMATOES	65-95°	5-10 Days		8 Weeks	1 Week After		
TURNIPS & RUTABAGAS	45-75°	4-7 Days	DIRECT SOW ONLY		Workable Soil		