



Planting, Harvesting & Seed Collecting Guide

Vegetable	When to Plant	Start Indoors	Seed Spacing	Seed Depth	Row Spacing	Spacing After Thinning	Harvest	Seed Collecting
Bean	On average last frost date		3"	1"	18-24"		When pods are 5-6" long	Collect from dried pods that rattle. Remove when dried completely
Beet	2 wks. before last frost		1"	1/2"	12-18"	3"	When root is 2" across	Seed forms second year. Cover with heavy mulch to over-winter. Harvest dried seed before it drops
Cabbage	4 wks. before last frost		1"	1/4"	18-24"	18"	When head is firm, just above lowest leaves. Continue to water for second head	Seed forms second year. Cover with heavy mulch to over-winter. Harvest dried seed before it drops
Carrot	2 wks. before last frost		1/2"	1/4"	12-18"	2"	When finger sized or larger	Seed forms second year. Cover with heavy mulch to over-winter. Harvest dried seed before it drops
Corn	On average last frost date		4"	1"	30-36"	8-12"	When ears are firm and silk turns brown	Leave cobs on stock until kernels show denting, pick and dry before removing from cob
Cucumber	On average last frost date		6 in hill	1"	36-48"	3 in hill	For slicing when 6-10". For pickling when 3-6"	Separate seed from cucumber when very yellow, then dry at room temperature
Lettuce	2 wks. before last frost		1"	1/4"	12-18"		Any time prior to sending up seed stock	Allow plants to flower, then separate seeds by rubbing flower head
Onion	4 wks. before last frost	4 wks. before planting date	1"	1/2"	18-24"	3"	When tops fall over. Use thinnings for green onions	Seed forms second year. Cover with heavy mulch to over-winter. Harvest dried seed before it drops
Pea	4 wks. before last frost		2"	3/4"	18-24"		When pods are full but before they wrinkle	Collect from dried pods. Remove when dried completely
Pepper	2 wks. after last frost	6 wks. before planting date	12-18"	1/4"	24-36"		When 3-4" long and still green	Remove from red very matured pepper then dry at room temperature
Radish	4 wks. before last frost		1"	1/2"	12-18"	2"	When root is 1-2" before becoming tough	Allow plants to flower, then separate seeds by rubbing flower head
Spinach	4 wks. before last frost		1"	1/4"	12-18"	6"	When largest leaves are 6-8" long	Allow to flower then cut off plant and dry until the seed comes off by rubbing them in the palm of your hand
Squash (Summer)	On average last frost date		6 in hill	1"	36-48"	3 in hill	When fruits are 7-10" long	Separate seeds from flesh when very ripe then dry at room temperature
Squash (Winter)	2 wks. after last frost		6 in hill	1"	48-72"	3 in hill	In the fall just before first frost	Save seeds from squash and dry at room temperature
Tomato	2 wks. after last frost	6 wks. before planting date	12-18"	1/4"	36-48"		When fruit turns red	Select a red very mature tomato and collect seed, let seed dry

**Spacing outlined above is for single row planting. Consider intensive planting where space is limited and to reduce weeding, cultivation, water and fertilizer requirements.*

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