

Planting Tips for Seed Starting



Start Ahead

12 weeks	Onions
10-12 weeks	Celery, Celeriac, Leeks
6-8 weeks	Eggplant, Peppers, Tomatoes
4-6 weeks	Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage (<i>or direct seed</i>), Cauliflower (<i>or direct seed</i>), Ground Cherry, Tomatillo
3-4 weeks	Cucumbers (<i>or direct seed</i>), Melons (<i>or direct seed</i>), Pumpkins (<i>or direct seed</i>), Summer & Winter Squash (<i>or direct seed</i>)

**Are your onions seedlings getting too tall? Give your onions a haircut once they are about 5 inches high (and toss them into your soup or salad!).*

Direct Seed

As soon as soil can be worked	Beets, Carrots, Chard, Lettuce, Parsnip, Peas, Spinach
After Fear of Frost	Beans, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Greens & Mustards, Kale, Kohlrabi

Transplant

As soon as soil can be worked	Leeks, Lettuce, Onion
After Fear of Frost	Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage (<i>or direct seed</i>), Cauliflower, Celery, Celeriac, Corn, Cucumber, Kohlrabi (<i>or direct seed</i>), Eggplant, Ground Cherry, Melon (<i>or direct seed</i>), Peppers, Pumpkins (<i>or direct seed</i>), Summer & Winter Squash (<i>or direct seed</i>), Tomato, Tomatillo,

Soil Temperature for Germination

4-15	Spinach
5-30	Radish
6-24	Peas
10-20	Celery, Celeriac, Lettuce
10-30	Beets, Broccoli, Cabbage, Carrots, Cauliflower, Chard, Greens & Mustards, Onions, Parsnip
12-35	Corn
15-25	Beans, Brussels Sprouts, Kale, Kohlrabi, Pumpkins
15-30	Ground Cherry, Tomatillo, Tomatoes, Turnip & Rutabaga
18-35	Cucumber
20-25	Leeks
20-30	Eggplant, Melon, Peppers, Summer & Winter Squash

**Seeds usually need higher temperatures to germinate than they need to grow. It takes your soil longer to warm up than the air. You can speed up the process by covering your bed with row cover or silage plastic.*

A good rule of thumb is to sow your seeds at 3x the depth of the seed (i.e., the diameter of round seeds, 1/4" deep for thing seeds like carrots)!