

## Potatoes



Potatoes are such a versatile veggie, both in the kitchen and in the ground. You can harvest new potatoes within six to eight weeks of planting or opt for later harvest varieties that you can enjoy right through early frosts. You can also grow them in a pot right on a sunny balcony or patio.

**When to plant:** Mid March through early May, depending on your location.

## Onions



It's hard to think of a more useful cooking ingredient than an onion, so why not grow them yourself? You can plant them in the spring for a harvest in the mid to late summer, depending on your climate. You can also plant them in the fall instead so they will be dormant all winter and pop up in spring.

**When to plant:** Late March to early April, when the temperatures won't dip below 28°F.

## Okra



Though more popular in southern recipes because most varieties like warm weather, there are versions of okra that grow just as well in chillier northern climates. Okra grows fast and often and the blooming flowers look like pretty hibiscus! You'll love to look at and eat them all summer long.

**When to plant:** Late April or early May in southern climates for a summer crop or early August for a fall harvest. June is best for northern climates.

## Turnips



An underrated cool-weather vegetable, the turnip makes a great alternative to carrots and potatoes in many recipes. Plus, you can eat both the green tops and the root vegetable, making them doubly delicious!

**When to plant:** A few weeks before the predicted last spring frost date for late spring harvest, late summer for a fall harvest, or early fall for a late fall harvest.

## Pumpkins



If you're debating whether to grow pumpkins in your garden, we have just two words for you: [pumpkin pie](#). You'll need a lot of space and a long growing season for this winter squash but we like to say, if you've got it, plant it!

**When to plant:** Well after danger of frost is past and the soil is between 65° and 95°F.

## Cabbage



This hardy, leafy vegetable thrives with 6 to 8 hours of direct sunlight per day so be sure to save a sunny spot in your garden if you plan to grow cabbage. Start sowing your seeds indoors for a summer harvest.

**When to plant:** About 6 to 8 weeks before the last spring frost for a summer harvest.

## Carrots



Did you know carrots taste even sweeter when they're fresh from the garden? That's just one of the many reasons to start growing this colorful root vegetable at home. Carrots can be a tricky plant, but if you use mulch and remember to keep the soil well-watered during hot spells, you should have lots of luck!

**When to plant:** About 2 to 3 weeks before the last spring frost date.

## Lettuce



Gourmet greens often get icky fast in the fridge. Instead of picking them up at the store, plant your own and you can harvest some leaves right before dinner. Lettuce likes cool weather and grows well when planted as seeds. It's also a great choice for

planting in pots and window boxes because the roots are shallow. Keep the plant moist as the seeds sprout, then harvest when leaves are a few inches long. If you like variety, choose a mesclun mix which includes several different types of lettuce in one seed packet.

**When to plant:** Early spring or late summer for a fall harvest.

## Tomatoes



You can grow heat-loving tomatoes from seed, or if you prefer, you can choose transplants, which you'll find at local nurseries or online. Pay attention to what type you're buying: Indeterminate types keep growing and producing until a frost, so their sprawling vines need to be staked—this means they're not great in containers because they get top-heavy. Determinate types have fruit that ripens in a short period of time—they'll stay about three to four feet tall. Cherry tomatoes are best for beginners, and many new varieties stay nice and compact so they're ideal for planting in containers.

**When to plant:** After all danger of frost is past.

## Beans





Beans come in tons of varieties, and they're prolific (plus, the more you pick, the more they produce!). Sow seeds directly in the ground because transplants don't usually do well. Look for pole beans, which need plenty of space and a trellis to climb, or bush beans, which grow in a more compact form, so they'll work in containers. Read the seed label to find "days to maturity" so you know when to harvest specific types—you don't want to wait too long because they'll get tough.

**When to plant:** After the last frost.

## Herbs



Even if you only have a tiny balcony, you can still grow fresh herbs! It's so much fun to snip off a few leaves for every meal, and it's much cheaper than buying those pricey packages at the store. Herbs grow equally well in containers or beds. You can grow most from seed, but if you're in a hurry, they're not super-expensive to purchase as transplants. Better yet, some herbs, such as chives, sage, and thyme, are perennial and will return next spring.

**When to plant:** Mid-spring.

## Cucumbers



Most cucumber types are heat-loving vines, so you'll need some space to grow them. You also can provide a cage or trellis for them to climb vertically, which will take up less room in your garden. Look for round, yellow, miniature, or compact varieties. It's best to plant seeds directly in the ground as transplants can be fussy.

**When to plant:** After all danger of frost is past.

## Eggplant



Eggplant is a heat lover, and newer types are more compact and bushy so they can be planted in containers or beds. Look for fun varieties that produce long, slender, or even ball-shaped eggplants. Keep in mind that most need will need staking. It's best to use transplants unless you've started these indoors about eight weeks before the last frost.

**When to plant:** After all danger of frost is past.

## Peas



Peas prefer chilly weather, so if you get peas in the ground too late, they'll often grow but won't produce. As soon as the ground can be worked, it's fine to plant pea seeds. Give them something to climb, and plant successive rows so you'll be able to harvest them for a few weeks before it gets too hot and the plants fade. And one last tip: After you yank out the spent peas, plant a different crop in that space to finish out the growing season.

**When to plant:** Early spring.

## Spinach



Spinach is another cool weather lover, so plant these seeds as soon as the ground can be worked—they don't even mind light frost! But don't procrastinate: If you sow



it too late in the season, it will “bolt” or go to seed in a hurry. If you live in a hot climate, look for more heat-resistant varieties. Pinch off baby leaves from the outside, or let it mature to use for sautéing or in salads.

**When to plant:** Early spring.

## Garlic



You won't believe how easy garlic is to grow until you try it! It's one of the first things to pop up in early spring. There are two basic types. First is softneck, which consists of many cloves and stores longer. The second is hardneck, which produces curly “scapes” you can harvest in late spring, then bulbs in mid-summer. Plant individual cloves of bulbs in the ground with the pointy-side up in fall. By late spring or early summer of the following year, it'll be ready to harvest when the greenery has turned yellow and flopped over.

**When to plant:** Mid to late fall before the ground freezes.

## Watermelon



Watermelon is one of the favorite summer fruits and growing it in your home garden is a great way to enjoy the hot summer days. Plant the watermelon seeds in well-prepared soil and provide them with full sunlight. Watermelons will be juicy and fresh with regular watering and proper spacing

## **Guava**



Guava is a popular fruit tree known for its mouthwatering aroma and juicy flesh and is an ideal choice for home gardens in India. Plant this low-maintenance fruit tree in a sunny spot with well-draining soil. Regular watering and occasional pruning will promote healthy growth and abundant fruit production.

## **Papaya**



Papaya, with its rich and delicious flavor, is an excellent addition to any home garden. This fast-growing fruit plant requires a sunny location with fertile soil. Provide regular watering and feed the plant with organic fertilizers such as vermicompost, PROM phosphorus-rich\_fertilizer, cow manure, bio npk\_fertilizer, or bone meal. With its easy growing and quick fruiting, papaya is a favorite choice for home gardens.

## **Strawberry**



Strawberries, with their vibrant red color and sweet taste, are a delightful addition to any garden. These low-maintenance plants thrive in well-drained soil and require ample sunlight. Strawberries can grow in small pots or grow\_bags. Regular watering and the occasional addition of organic matter will result in plump, juicy strawberries for your home garden.

## **Sitafal (Custard Apple)**



Sitafal, also known as custard apple, boasts a creamy texture and sweet flavor. Plant it in a sunny location with well-drained soil. Regular watering and pruning will help the tree bear an abundance of delicious sitafal. This low-maintenance best fruit tree is perfect for home gardens in India.

## **Kela (Banana)**



Bananas are a staple of Indian households and growing them in your own home garden is a rewarding experience. Plant banana trees in fertile soil and provide them with enough sunlight and water. Regular feeding and protection from high winds will produce nutritious banana bunches

## **Pomegranate**



Pomegranate, with its jewel-like arils and sweet taste, is a popular choice for home gardens. Plant pomegranate trees in well-drained soil and provide ample sunlight.



Regular pruning and watering will produce juicy pomegranates packed with health benefits.

## **Lemon Tree**



Lemons, with their sour flavor and versatile uses, are a must-have in any garden. Plant lemon trees in well-drained soil and provide them with adequate sunlight. Regular watering and occasional fertilization will ensure a continuous supply of tangy lemons. These low-maintenance trees are perfect for home gardens.

## **Mango**



The mango, renowned as the king of fruits, holds a special place in Indian hearts. This tree thrives in a sunny spot with well-drained soil. Regular watering, pruning, and protection from pests will ensure the growth of mangoes. With a little care, you can enjoy the heavenly taste of homegrown mangoes.

## **Jamun (Java Plum)**



Jamun is a favorite fruit in India because of its unique sweet and tangy taste. Grow Jamun trees in well-drained soil and plenty of sunlight. Regular pruning and watering will result in bountiful harvests of deep purple berries. Grow these low-maintenance fruit trees in well-draining soil with ample sunlight.

## **Anjeer (Figs)**



Anjeer, or figs, are known for their sweet and chewy texture. This is the best fruit tree to grow in a home garden in India. Plant fig trees in well-drained soil and provide them with full sunlight. Regular watering and occasional pruning will help you enjoy the succulent sweetness of figs.

## **Shahtoot (Mulberry)**



Mulberry is a delicious fruit with a unique taste. You can easily grow this fruit tree in your home garden with a little effort. Plant mulberry trees in well-drained soil and plenty of sunlight. Regular watering and pruning will ensure a productive tree laden with sweet mulberries.

## **Apple Tree**



Apple is one of the healthiest fruits in India which is not native to India, but some varieties can be grown successfully in some regions. Choose suitable apple tree varieties and provide them with well-draining soil and ample sunlight. With regular pruning and care, you will get crisp and juicy apples.

## Dragon Fruit Tree



With its vibrant colors and refreshing taste, dragon fruit is gaining popularity in India. This fruit is the best option for growing in home gardens. Grow dragon fruit plants in well-draining soil and full sun. Climbing vines with regular watering and support will produce amazing fruits.

## Pineapple



Pineapple is a delicious fruit, and growing it at home in pots or grow bags is easier than you might think. Plant the pineapple tops in well-draining soil and provide them with ample sunlight. With regular watering and patience, you will get juicy and sweet pineapples.



