



December Garden Tasks



Sowing & Planting

- Plant bare-root fruit trees, roses, and shrubs if soil is workable.
- Sow sweet peas under cover for an early start next year.
- Prepare beds with compost and manure for spring sowing.

Pruning & Cutting Back

- Prune apple and pear trees while dormant.
- Cut back autumn raspberries to ground level.
- Remove dead or diseased wood from shrubs and trees.





Harvesting

- Harvest leeks, Brussels sprouts, kale, and winter cabbages.
- Lift parsnips and swedes for Christmas dinners.
- Check stored vegetables and fruit for rot.



Watering & Feeding

- Water pots in sheltered spots occasionally in dry weather.
- Avoid overwatering houseplants in low light.
- Stop feeding garden plants until spring.



Greenhouse

- Check insulation and heaters are working.
- Ventilate on mild days to reduce condensation.
- Sow early salad crops in trays with heat.

Houseplants

- Keep houseplants away from cold draughts and frosty windows.
- Wipe dust from leaves to maximise light absorption.
- Water sparingly to avoid root rot.



Lawn Care

- Keep lawns clear of leaves and debris.
- Avoid mowing – grass growth is minimal.
- Stay off frosty or waterlogged lawns.

General Maintenance

- Clean and sharpen tools ready for next year.
- Check stored bulbs and tubers for rot.
- Protect pots and containers from frost damage.





Wildlife & Ponds

- Provide high-energy food for birds in cold weather.
- Keep a hole in frozen ponds for wildlife. Melt it by placing a pan of hot water on the ice—never break it.
- Avoid disturbing hibernating animals.

Paths, Fences & Tools

- Check greenhouses, sheds, and fences for storm damage.
- Salt or grit icy paths for safety.
- Store hoses and watering equipment indoors.



Planning & Admin

- Make a list of seeds to order for next year.
- Review garden successes and failures.
- Plan new projects and redesigns for spring.

Leisure (And Finally...)

- Add festive lights or decorations to the garden.
- Bring in evergreen foliage for Christmas displays.
- Take time to relax and enjoy the garden's winter beauty.

