

Starting Vegetables INDOORS

Vegetable	Start	Temp. to Germinate	Temp. to grow transplants	Transplant	Comments
Broccoli	Feb – Jul	70 - 75°	60°	Transplant twice: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st time, with 1 true leaf to 3” apart in flats or to 4” pots • 2^d time, with 3-5 true leaves to outdoor beds Transplant deeply, bury stem to 1 st or 2 ^d leaf (pick off buried leaf when planting).	Start fall varieties in June and July. Plant 6” apart and thin to 15-18”
Cabbage	Feb – Jul	70 - 75°	60°		Close spacing yields smaller heads. Plant 6” apart and thin to 15-18”
Cauliflower	Feb – Jun	70 - 75°	60°		Difficult to grow. Transplant promptly, 15-19” apart. Fertilize, water regularly.
Leek	Jan – Apr	70°	60°	When 1/8-1/4” diameter, 4-6” apart. Do not bury growing center	Can sow Mar-Apr in garden bed. Plant overwinter varieties at same time.
Pepper	Mar – Apr	75 -- 80°	70°	May – June. Grow in pots inside or in cold frames until mid-May	Grow against south wall or under cold frame until July 1
Tomato	Mar – Apr	70 - 75°	70°	May-Jun. Grow in pots inside or in cold frames until mid-May	Grow against south wall or under cold frame until mid-June

Starting Vegetables OUTDOORS

Vegetable	Planting Date	Best Soil Temp. Range	Seed Depth	Comments
Bean	May – Jul	60 - 85°	1”	Pre-soak seeds an hour or so to speed germination. Sow 3” apart and thin to 6-8”. Sow every 2 weeks to extend season
Beet	Mar – Aug	40 - 85°	¼” – ½”	Thin 3-4”, use leaves for greens. Sow every 3 weeks to extend season. Late crops can be stored for winter use.

Vegetable	Planting Date	Best Soil Temp. Range	Seed Depth	Comments
Carrot	Apr – Jul	45 - 85°	$\frac{1}{8}$ " – $\frac{1}{4}$ "	Thin seedlings to 2" for 'half-long' and 'baby' types; 4" for full size. Sow every 2-3 weeks for continual harvest.
Cucumber	May – Jun	70 - 95°	$\frac{3}{4}$ "	Sow 2 or 4 seeds per hill and thin to one plant. Pick regularly for continued harvest.
Lettuce	Feb – Aug	65 - 70°	$\frac{1}{8}$ " – $\frac{1}{4}$ "	Thin to 1" in flats. After March direct sow in beds, thin 6-12". Sow every 2 weeks for continual harvest.
Mustard Green	Feb – Sep	65 - 75°	$\frac{1}{8}$ " – $\frac{1}{4}$ "	Start heading types, 'Choys' in pots indoors. Thin 4-6"
Onion	Jan – Aug	60 - 75°	$\frac{1}{8}$ " seeds $\frac{1}{2}$ " sets	Thin 1-2". Sow every 3 weeks to extend season. Use young thinned onions as chives. Late plantings will winter over for spring harvest.
Parsley	Feb – Jun Sep	60 - 75°	Scatter	Thin to 8". Overwinters. Will self-sow if left to flower in spring
Pea	Feb – Jul	40 - 75°	$\frac{3}{4}$ " – 1"	Plant 4" apart. Sow every 3 weeks to extend season. Planting after April should be virus resistant varieties.
Potato	Mar -- Jun		4 "	Plant only 'certified seed'. 'Hill up' plants as they grow.
Radish	Jan – Sep	45 - 80°	$\frac{1}{4}$ "	Thin 1-2". Sow every 3 or 4 weeks to extend season.
Spinach	Feb – May Jul – Sep	45 - 70°	$\frac{1}{4}$ "	When 2-4" high, thin gradually to 12" apart. Harvest young greens. Plant 'winter' varieties in Sept for fall and spring harvest.
Swiss Chard	Mar – Sep	45 - 70°	$\frac{1}{4}$ " – $\frac{1}{2}$ "	Plant 6" apart, thin 8-10". Start cutting outer leaves when plant is about 8" tall to extended harvest. New leaves will grow from center.
Turnip	Mar – Aug	60 - 70°	$\frac{1}{4}$ "	Thin 3-6". Tops can be eaten as greens. Begin harvesting roots when about 3" in diameter

Prepared by WSU-Pierce County Master Gardeners
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