

Whitney Anderson Gardening

SEED STARTING CHEATSHEET

Take the guesswork out of starting seeds by using this easy cheatsheet by date. This will help you whether you want to start indoors or direct sow or both.

INSTRUCTIONS: Look up your frost date and add it. Then, sit down with a calendar and add the other dates (12 weeks prior to your frost date, 10 weeks prior, etc.)





SEED STARTING CHEATSHEET

October, November

DIRECT SOW: garlic, flower bulbs (ranunculus corms, tulip bulbs, peony tubers)

| December - February (winter sow) DIRECT SOW: flowers that require cold stratification (snapdragons, poppies, milkweed) |
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| 12 weeks prior: START INDOORS: kale, collards, swiss chard |
| 10 weeks prior: START INDOORS: eggplant, snapdragons |
| 9 weeks prior: START INDOORS: lettuce, broccoli |
| 8 weeks prior: START INDOORS: peppers, tomatoes, most herbs (basil, oregano, parsley) |
| 7 weeks prior: START INDOORS: cabbage DIRECT SOW: swiss chard, radishes, carrots, parsnips, collards, arugula |
| 6 weeks prior: START INDOORS: warm weather flowers (cosmos, zinnias, marigolds, calendula) DIRECT SOW: lettuce, broccoli, cabbage, peas, spinach TRANSPLANT: lettuce, kale, collards, swiss chard |
| 5 weeks prior: START INDOORS: luffa |
| 4 weeks prior: START INDOORS: cucumbers, squash, zucchini, watermelon, cantaloupe DIRECT SOW: kale |



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| 5 weeks prior |
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| TRANSPLANT: cabbage, broccoli |
| 2 weeks prior: |
| Begin hardening off seedlings DIRECT SOW: dill |
| 1 week prior: |
| Harden off seedlings or continue if you started last week |
| On frost date: |
| DIRECT SOW: pole or bush beans, sunflowers |
| DIRECT SOW or TRANSPLANT: tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, herbs, luffa, warm weath |
| flowers (cosmos, zinnias, sunflowers, marigold, calendula) |
| 1-2 weeks PAST frost date: |
| DIRECT SOW or TRANSPLANT: watermelon, squash, zucchini, cucumbers, cantaloupe |
| 4-8 weeks PAST frost date: |
| DIRECT SOW: pumpkins, winter squash |