

VEGETABLE PLANTING AND PLANNING CHART

Annual Vegetable	Distance Between Plants/Hills	Depth to Plant Seeds	Days to Germinate	Days to Maturity	Comments
Beets	2-4" after thinning	1/2"	7-12 days	50-60 days (some varieties as early as 40 days)	Beet greens removed during thinning can be cooked like other greens.
Broccoli	12-14" stagger planting	1/4"	6-9 days	110 days (60 after transplanting)	Best started from transplants. Goes bitter quickly once hot weather hits.
Brussel Sprouts	12-14" stagger planting	1/4"	6-9 days	130 days (85 after transplanting)	Best started from transplants. Pick off lower leaves after sprouts form.
Cabbage	12-14" stagger planting	1/4"	6-9 days	140 days (90 after transplanting)	Transplants best.
Cauliflower	8-10" stagger planting	1/4"	6-9 days	110 days (60 after transplanting)	Start as transplants in spring. Seed in early summer for fall crops. Need to be blanched once flowers start to form.
Carrots	1-2" plants after thinning	1/4"	12-18 days	70 days (or less for mini varieties)	Darkest green foliage indicates the largest carrots. Try to leave the largest ones when thinning. Water consistently.
Celery	6-8" between plants	1/4"	10-21 days	80-100 days	Best started indoors. Needs rich loam soil.
Cucumber	4-6' between hills	1/2-1"	7-10 days	50-60 days after transplanting	Plant 5-6 seeds per hill. Thin later, leaving the best 3-4 plants. Or transplant seedlings instead of direct seeding.
Eggplant	12" stagger planting	1/2"	10-14 days	120 days (70 after transplanting)	Transplants are a good idea in most of Canada.
Garlic	3-4" between plants	2"	Bulb	90 days	Start harvesting when small. Use tops and bulbs. Can plant in fall for summer crop or in early spring for a fall crop.
Green Onions	3-4" between plants	1"	7-10 days	30-40 days	If some bulb roots are left in the ground, they will grow back next year.
Kale	6-8" between plants	1/4"	6-9 days	Depends on variety	Will survive frost and snow.
Kohlrabi	3-4" between plants	1/4"	6-9 days	45-55 days	Best at 3" in diameter.
Lettuce	8-10" between heads, 3-5" between leaves	1/4"	5-10 days	55-70 for head, 45-60 for leaf (less if harvesting for baby greens)	3" spacing for leaf lettuce, 8" for head lettuce (can be less for baby greens, including mesclun mixes). Cut, do not pull, for second and third harvest.
Mustard Greens	4-5" between plants	1/4"	5-8 days		Often a fall crop in the South.
Okra	10-12" between plants	1/2"	4-14 days	50 days after transplanting	Best started from transplant. Likes hot weather. Harvest when pods are 4" long or less.

Onion Sets	2-3" between plants	1"	Bulb	100 days	Can be planted in fall or in early spring. Use fresh from greentails to maturity. Harvest for storage after tops fall over.
Peas	2-4" between plants	1"	7-10 days	70 days	Does well in spring. Does not like hot weather. Sugar Snap and climbing varieties require a 5-6' fence or poles.
Peppers	12" between plants or stagger planting	1/2"	7-10 days	125 days (75 after transplanting)	Should be started as transplants in cool climates. Most varieties of green peppers will ripen into red peppers if left on the plant.
Pumpkins	5-8' between hills	1"	7-10 days	110-120 days	Needs space to sprawl. Grow as a barrier around corn to keep raccoons out.
Radish	1-2" between plants	1/4"	3-5 days	20-25 days	If the plants are left to flower, the seed pods are edible and provide more food than the root.
Snap Beans (bush)	3-4" between plants	1"	5-10 days	Depends on variety	Pick young, before individual beans are visible in the pod.
Snap Beans (pole)	4-6 seeds/pole; 6" apart in a row	1"	7-14 days	108 days	Pick young, before individual beans are visible in the pod.
Spinach	3-5" between plants	1/4"	7-12 days	45-50 days	Likes cool weather. Goes to seed quickly in warm weather.
Squash (winter)	5-8' between hills	1"	7-10 days	80-100	Needs space to sprawl. Grow as a barrier around corn to keep raccoons out.
Squash (zucchini and summer)	3-4' between hills	1/2-1"	7-10 days	50-60 days after transplanting	For an extra-early crop, start some indoors and transplant.
Sweet Corn	8-12" between plants	1"	5-12 days	70-90 days	Pick immediately before serving to prevent natural sugars in the ear from turning to starch.
Swiss Chard	4-6" between plants	1/2-1"	7-10 days	55-60 days	Cut for use when plants are 8-10" tall. Plant will continue to produce if you simply take the large outside leaves.
Tomato	18-36" between plants (depending on variety), stagger planting	1/4"	7-10 days	126 days (70 after transplanting)	Start indoors. Transplant after danger of frost passes. Indeterminate varieties require caging/staking while determinate varieties are less viney and require less support.

Source: *Just the Facts*, by Kathleen Bond Barrie and Gwen W. Siegel (eds), pp. 53-56.