**When (and Where) to start your seeds**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Vegetable** | **Weeks Before Last Frost Date** |
| *Start indoors and transfer outdoors after last frost (These plants are tender)* |   |
| Chives; Globe Artichoke; Leeks; Onions; | 12 |
| Celery; | 10 |
| Eggplant; Peppers; Tomatillo; Tomatoes; | 8 |
| Broccoli; Cabbage; Cauliflower; | 6 |
| Cucmbers; Melons; Okra; Pumpkins; Squash; | 3 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Direct Seed in garden before last frost (These plants are hardy)** | **Weeks before last frost date** |
| Onion Sets; Seed Potatoes; | 6 |
| Kale; Kohlrabi; Spinach; Turnips; Mustard; | 5 |
| Beets; Carrots; Chinese Cabbage; Endive; Peas (English); Radish; | 4 |
| Lettuce (all types); Swiss Chard; | 2 |
| **Direct seed in garden after last frost (Tender)** | **Weeks after last frost date** |
| Beans; Celeriac; Cowpeas; | 1-2 |
| Corn; Muskmelon; Watermelon; Okra; | 2 |
| Pumpkins; Squash; | 2 |
| Cucumbers; Peanuts; Amaranth; | 2 |

**How long till harvest?**

The following table gives approximate days between planting in the garden and harvest. Note that plants which are set out as seedlings (tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, cabbage, broccoli, etc.) do not include the time spent growing indoors before setting out in the garden.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Radish; | 25-35 days |
| Turnip Greens; Spinach; Mustard Greens; Lettuce (leaf); Onions (Green); | 35-45 days |
| Kale; Swiss Chard; Kohlrabi; Beans (Bush and Wax); Beets; Lettuce (Head); Turnip; Amaranth (As a vegetable); | 50-60 days |
| Cauliflower; Peas (English); Beans (Pole); Okra; Cucumber; | 60-70 days |
| Broccoli; Carrot; Pepper; Cabbage; Chinese Cabbage; Sweet Corn; Lima Beans (Bush); Crowder Peas; | 70-85 days |
| Watermelon; Collards; Cantaloupe; Tomato; Lima Beans (Pole); Eggplant; Endive; Summer Squash; Rutabaga; | 80-90 days |
| Winter Squash; Onions (Dry); Tomatillo; | 100 days |
| Potato; Celeriac; Pumpkins; | up to 120 days |
| Peanuts; | 135 days |
| Sweet Potato; Parsnips; Salsify; | 150 days |
| Rhubarb; | 2 years |
| Asparagus; | 3 years |

**Seed Starting Chart for Flowers**

Follow the general seed starting directions above.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Flower Variety** | **Weeks before last spring frost to start plants indoors** |
| Pansies; Poppies; Snapdragons; | 12 |
| Calendula; | 6 |
| Marigolds; Zinnias; Nasturtium; Morning Glories; | 4 |

**Planting and Growing Sunflowers**

For giant-sized heads, space the plants at least three or four feet apart. Overcrowding will cause the plants to fall in heavy winds. In garden beds, the plants should be grown along a fence or property line. There are also dwarf and semi-dwarf varieties which may be grown in mixed flower beds. Some produce multiple flower heads on branching stems.

**Seed Starting Chart for Herbs**

Follow the general seed starting directions above.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Herb Variety** | **Weeks before last spring frost to start plants indoors** |
| Chives (Garlic and Onion); Oregano; Yarrow; Parsley; | 12-14 |
| Thyme; Chamomile. Feverfew; Catnip; | 8-12 |
| Dill; Chervil; Coriander; Lemon Balm; Sage; Savory; Basil; | 6-8 |