

# Fall Planting



Chard (August)

Broccoli (September)

Cauliflower (September)

Garlic (September)






# Chard



Chard or Swiss Chard is a very popular garden vegetable and is simple to grow in containers. Chard can be planted from seeds or starts and will thrive in the spring or fall when temperatures are cool. For fall planting, chard should be planted in August so it will be ready to harvest before the freezing temperatures of winter arrive.

## Chard Varieties:

-  **White-stemmed** varieties are the most common. They are hearty and easy to grow.
-  **Brightly colored** varieties have red, pink, yellow, or orange stems and are available individually or in pre-packaged mixtures.
-  **Perpetual varieties**, which are often called perpetual spinach, have thinner stems and smaller, smoother leaves than larger varieties, and they taste more like spinach. The short, stocky plants work well in small gardens and containers.



## Growing Swiss Chard in a Container:

1. Choose a chard variety.
2. Choose a container size that fits your space and the amount of chard you want to grow.
3. Make sure your container is in a sunny spot and has holes for drainage in the bottom.
4. Fill your container with moist potting soil. Pre-moistened soil ensures plants and seeds have enough water when they are planted.
5. Plant your seeds or starts 6 inches apart. Follow the seed packet or start label for the planting depth.
6. Water your seeds or starts immediately after planting. Check soil moisture every day and water when the top inch of soil feels dry to your finger. Remember the temperature will still be hot and soil can dry out quickly.
7. You can begin to harvest individual leaves off the chard when the plant is approximately 8 to 10 inches high, starting with the outside leaves first. New leaves will continue to sprout from the center of the plant.



*The number of days from planting to harvest has many variables.  
Read the seed packet or plant label on the variety you choose for estimated "days to harvest".*





# Broccoli



Broccoli is an easy cool-season crop to grow and care for in containers. The large nutritious flower heads are eaten raw, steamed, or boiled. It is closely related to cauliflower and can grow up to 3 feet tall. Broccoli can be planted from seed or starts, but starts are a bit easier and are planted in late August or early September. Broccoli will be harvested before winter.

## Broccoli Varieties:

Broccoli comes in many varieties that are grouped into categories based on how the broccoli flowers grow.

**Large headed broccoli produce a large flower head:**

🌱 Arcadia, Belstar, Munchkin, Nutri-Bud, Packman

**Sprouting broccoli produce smaller tender flower heads:**

🌱 Calabrese, DeCicco, Purple Peacock, Purple Sprouting



## Growing Broccoli in a Container:

1. Choose a broccoli variety.
2. For one broccoli plant, choose a container that is at least 12 inches wide and 12 inches deep to grow. See page 7 for container sizes for multiple plants.
3. Make sure your container is in a sunny spot and has holes for drainage in the bottom.
4. Fill your container with moist potting soil. Pre-moistened soil ensures starts have enough water when they are planted.
5. Plant your starts at least 12 inches apart.
6. Water starts immediately after planting. Check soil moisture every day and water when the top inch of soil feels dry to your finger.
7. You can begin to harvest broccoli once the broccoli head is large and still compact. Once the broccoli head begins to open and flower, the broccoli will become tough.
8. After harvesting the main head, new smaller heads will form and can be harvested. See picture to the right.



*The number of days from planting to harvest has many variables.  
Read the seed packet or plant label on the variety you choose for estimated "days to harvest".*





# Cauliflower



Cauliflower is a close relative of broccoli and is grown in much the same way. It is easiest planted from starts in late August or early September. Like broccoli, cauliflower plants can get large so plan your container and location so it has room to grow. The cauliflower head or “curd” will be harvested before winter.

## Cauliflower Varieties:

As the cauliflower head begins to form, it needs to be protected from the elements and direct sun. This is called blanching. It is easiest to grow “self blanching” varieties because they have leaves that naturally curl over and protect the head. There are also colored cauliflower varieties that do not need blanching.

### Self Blanching varieties:

🌿 Self-Blanche, Snow Crown, Andes, Snowball

### Colored varieties:

🌿 Purple - Purple Head, Violet Queen, Graffiti

🌿 Orange - Cheddar, Orange

🌿 Lime Green - Veronica, Panther, Shannon Broccoflower



## Growing Cauliflower in a Container:

1. Choose a cauliflower variety.
2. For one cauliflower plant, choose a container that is at least 12 inches wide and 12 inches deep to grow. See page 7 for container sizes for multiple plants.
3. Make sure your container is in a sunny spot and has holes for drainage in the bottom.
4. Fill your container with moist potting soil. Pre-moistened soil ensures starts have enough water when they are planted.
5. Plant your starts at least 12 inches apart.
6. Water starts immediately after planting. Check soil moisture every day and water when the top inch of soil feels dry to your finger.
7. You can begin to harvest cauliflower once the head is large and still compact.
8. Unlike broccoli, after harvesting the main cauliflower head no new heads will form.



*The number of days from planting to harvest has many variables.*

*Read the seed packet or plant label on the variety you choose for estimated "days to harvest".*








# Garlic



Garlic is most famous for its ability to enhance the taste of food. Garlic is planted from cloves (the same cloves you use in cooking). Local nurseries will have a variety of garlic to choose from. Garlic cloves are planted in October or November and will not be harvested until the following summer. Once garlic is harvested, it can either be used immediately or dried and stored in a dry dark place for use later.

## Garlic Varieties:

Garlic comes in many varieties and are grouped by their flavor strength. Here are some samples of very mild, mild, and medium varieties.

-  **Very mild garlic** - California Early, Cuban Purple
-  **Mild garlic** - Applegate, Early Red, Italian Red, Toch, Siciliano,
-  **Medium garlic** - Maiskij, Silverwhite, Inchelium Red, Ajo Rojo, Creole Red, Labera Purple



## Growing Garlic in a Container:

1. Choose a garlic variety.
2. Choose a container large enough to grow the amount of garlic you want.
3. Make sure your container is in a sunny spot and has holes for drainage in the bottom.
4. Fill your container with moist potting soil. Pre-moistened soil ensures cloves have enough water when they are planted.
5. Separate garlic cloves from the bulb. Plant cloves with pointed end facing up. Press clove 4 to 6 inches deep into soil. Lightly cover with soil.
6. Water your garlic immediately after planting. Check soil moisture regularly and water when the top inch of soil feels dry to your finger.
7. Move the container to a protected location when temperatures get below freezing.
8. If garlic begins to flower in spring, simply snip off the flowers. This will help bulbs to grow larger.
9. Garlic will be ready to harvest in early summer. Freshly harvested garlic needs to be stored in the refrigerator and used within a week. For prolonged storage, garlic needs to be dried. To dry, carefully wash the bulb and roots. Hang garlic from it's stalks in a shady, well-ventilated, moisture-free area for a week or more. Then they are ready for long term storage in a dry dark kitchen location.

