

SPRING SEED STARTING SCHEDULE

Frost-free date in your garden: _____

Using the dates below calculate the "setting-out dates" and "when to start indoors" dates:

Crop	Safe setting-out dates (relative to frost-free date)	Setting-out dates	Weeks to transplant	When to start indoors	Helpful tips
Lemon Balm	Anytime after		8 to 10		Can use cuttings or root divisions for quick growth
Lettuce	2 weeks before to 3 weeks after		4 to 6		Direct seed some plants to stagger harvest
Mustard	5 weeks after		4 to 6		Can direct seed 2-4 weeks before last frost
Okra	3-4 weeks after		6 to 8		Handle carefully; can direct seed after last frost when soil has warmed to 60°F
Onions, bunching	4-5 weeks before to 2 weeks after		4 to 6		Direct seed 4-6 weeks before last frost; use sets/seedlings for last starts
Onions, bulb	6 weeks before to 2 weeks after; anytime after for sets		4 to 6		Direct seed 4-6 weeks before last frost; use sets/seedlings for last starts
Oregano	2 weeks after		2 to 3		Use stem cuttings or divisions for last starts; direct seed anytime after frost
Parsley	4-6 weeks before to 4-6 weeks after		4 to 6		Can direct seed 2-4 weeks before last frost
Parsnips	4 weeks before to 4 weeks after		4 to 6		Handle carefully; can direct seed 2-4 weeks before last frost
Peas	4 weeks before to 3 weeks after		4		Handle transplants carefully; can direct seed 4-6 weeks before last frost
Peppers	2-3 weeks after		6 to 8		Transplants well
Potatoes	2-4 weeks before		Not applicable		Plant seed potatoes with 12-inch sprouts for good yields
Pumpkins	4 weeks after		4		Handle carefully; can direct seed anytime after last frost
Radishes	4-6 weeks before		Not applicable		Direct seed
Rosemary	Anytime after		8 to 10		Use stem cuttings for a better start; direct seed anytime after last frost
Sage	Anytime after		6 to 8		Use cuttings/divisions for fast starts; can direct seed anytime soil is workable
Spinach, Malabar	Anytime after		8 to 10		Can direct seed 1 week after last frost
Spinach, New Zealand	Anytime after		4 to 6		Can direct seed anytime after last frost
Spinach, other	3-6 weeks before		4 to 6		Handle carefully; can direct seed 4-6 weeks before last frost
Squash, winter & summer	3-4 weeks after		4		Handle carefully; can direct seed 1 week after last frost
Savory	Anytime after		8 to 10		Can direct seed as soon as soil can be worked
Sweet Potatoes	2-3 weeks after		6 to 8		Can also start from purchased slips
Swiss Chard	3-4 weeks before		4		Handle carefully; can direct seed 2-4 weeks before last frost
Thyme	Anytime after		8 to 10		Use root divisions for fast starts; can direct seed when soil is workable
Tomatoes	4 weeks after		6 to 10		Set out earlier with protection; direct seed where season is long
Turnips	4 weeks before		3 to 4		Handle carefully; can direct seed 4-6 weeks before last frost