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## Planning Your Vegetable Garden

### PART 2 - WHAT CAN I GROW?



Here are some suggestions as to what vegetables to grow in your vegetable plot, growbag or pots.

1. Grow vegetables that you currently eat from the supermarket.
2. Pick a few of your favourite vegetables.
3. Try growing new vegetables that you haven't tried before.
4. Choose different varieties of vegetables to get the best taste, heavy crops, disease resistance and different colours.
5. If you are a beginner to growing your own vegetables, then try vegetables that are rated very easy, easy or medium (see table on next page).
6. Try old heritage, traditional or rare vegetable varieties from the past or from different countries.

# HOW EASY ARE VEGETABLES TO GROW?

## RATING: 1 - VERY EASY

The following vegetables are very easy to grow, seeds can be sown in pots, beds or growbags and the plants require little to no attention. Please note all plants need watering and checking for pests as indicated in the chart below. These vegetables are quite hardy plants so if you forget to water them for a few days, it certainly won't be a disaster.

VEGETABLE	SOIL TYPE	WATERING	LOCATION	POT/BED	PESTS	DISEASES	NO OF WEEKS TO GROW
<b>Dwarf/ French Beans</b>	Compost or Fertilised Soil	Frequently	Sunny	Pot, Bed or GrowBag	Slugs and Snails	Rot	8 - 12 Weeks
<b>Salad Endive</b>	Any Soil	Every few days	Sunny or Semi-Shade	Pot, Bed or GrowBag	Slugs and Snails	None	15 - 20 Weeks
<b>Lettuce</b>	Any Soil	Every few days	Sunny or Semi-Shade	Pot, Bed or GrowBag	Slugs and Snails	None	6 - 14 Weeks
<b>Pak Choi</b>	Any Soil	Every few days	Sunny or Semi-Shade	Pot, Bed or GrowBag	Snails and Whitefly	None	6 - 12 Weeks
<b>Radish</b>	Any Soil	Every few days	Sunny or Semi-Shade	Pot, Bed or GrowBag	Slugs and Snails	None	4 - 8 Weeks
<b>Rocket</b>	Any Soil	Every few days	Sunny or Semi-Shade	Pot, Bed or GrowBag	Slugs and Snails	None	6 - 14 Weeks
<b>Tomato</b>	Compost or Fertilised Soil	Frequently	Sunny	Pot, Bed or GrowBag	Greenfly or Blackfly	Blossom End Rot & Blight	Approx 20 Weeks



## CARING FOR SEEDLINGS

The tables on these pages show the requirements for fully established plants.

Seedlings need to be treated with more care with regards to watering, transplanting, protection from pests and diseases.

Seedlings are weak baby plants that need to be nurtured through the first weeks of their lives so they can become strong established plants to be potted on or planted out to their final location.

Picture shows established tomato plants ready to be potted on to bigger pots for their final growing, flowering and fruiting stage.

## RATING: 2 - EASY

The following vegetables are easy to grow which means they only require a little attention and maintenance to grow. Please see the table below for soil type, watering and location needs to grow the following easy vegetables.

VEGETABLE	SOIL TYPE	WATERING	LOCATION	POT/BED	PESTS	DIS-EASES	NO OF WEEKS TO GROW
<b>Beetroot</b>	Any Soil	Every few days	Sunny or Semi-Shade	Pots, Beds or Growbag	Slugs and Snails	Downy Mildew	11 - 16 Weeks
<b>Chard</b>	Any Soil	Every few days	Sunny or Semi-Shade	Pots, Beds or Growbag	Slugs	None	12 - 14 Weeks
<b>Climbing Beans</b>	Compost or fertilised soil	Regularly (Every 1 or 2 days)	Sunny	Pots, Beds or Growbag	Slugs	Downey Mildew	12 - 14 Weeks
<b>Kale</b>	Any Soil	Every few days	Sunny or Semi-Shade	Beds	Whitefly & caterpillars	None	30 - 35 Weeks
<b>Leaf Beat</b>	Any Soil	Every few days	Sunny or Semi-Shade	Pots, Beds or Growbag	Slugs and Whitefly	None	12 - 14 Weeks
<b>Leek</b>	Any free draining soil	Every few days	Sunny or Semi-Shade	Beds	N/A	Leek Rust	30 - 45 Weeks
<b>Mange Tout</b>	Compost or fertilised soil	Regularly (Every 1 or 2 days)	Sunny	Pots, Beds or Growbag	Slugs	Powdery Mildew	12 - 16 Weeks
<b>Onion</b>	Compost or fertilised soil	Every few days	Sunny or Semi-Shade	Beds	Onion Fly	Onion Rot	Sets: 20 Seed: 30
<b>Peas</b>	Compost or fertilised soil	Regularly (Every 1 or 2 days)	Sunny	Pots, Beds or Growbag	Slugs and Snails	Powdery Mildew	12 - 16 Weeks
<b>Potato</b>	Any Soil	Regularly (Every 1 or 2 days)	Sunny or Semi-Shade	Pots, Beds or Growbag	Slugs	Blight, Scab, Rot	13 - 22 Weeks
<b>Runner Beans</b>	Compost or fertilised soil	Regularly (Every 1 or 2 days)	Sunny	Pots, Beds or Growbag	Slugs and Snails	Fuserium Wilt	12 - 16 Weeks
<b>Shallot</b>	Compost or fertilised soil	Every few days	Sunny or Semi-Shade	Beds	None	Onion Rot	Sets: 18 Seed: 22
<b>Spinach</b>	Compost or fertilised soil	Regularly (Every 1 or 2 days)	Sunny or Semi-Shade	Pots, Beds or Growbag	Slugs and Whitefly	Bolting (running to seed)	8 - 14 Weeks
<b>Spring Onion</b>	Compost or fertilised soil	Every few days	Sunny or Semi-Shade	Pots, Beds or Growbag	Slugs and Whitefly	Downy Mildew	20 - 22 Weeks
<b>Turnip</b>	Any Soil	Every few days	Sunny or Semi-Shade	Pots, Beds or Growbag	Slugs and Snails	None	6 - 12 Weeks

## RATING: 3 - MEDIUM

The following vegetables are in the medium rating which means they are still OK to try for beginners but they will require more care and attention to their particular needs. Please see the 'Attention' column for more details.

The pests and diseases listed are the main ones to check for on your vegetable plants.

VEGETABLE	SOIL TYPE	WATERING	LOCATION	POT/ BED	PESTS	NO OF WEEKS TO GROW	ATTENTION
<b>Aubergine</b>	Compost	Regularly (Every 1 or 2 days)	Sunny but Sheltered	Pots, Beds or Growbag	Green & Whitefly	18 - 20 Weeks	Requires watering regularly if in pots.
<b>Broad Beans</b>	Compost, fertilised soil	Regularly (Every 1 or 2 days)	Sunny	Beds	Blackfly	Spring: 14 Autumn: 26	Check for blackfly & pinch out tops
<b>Cabbage</b>	Compost, fertilised soil	Every few days	Sunny or Semi-Shade	Beds	Caterpillars & Slugs	20 - 35 Weeks	Remove caterpillars & cover with cloche
<b>Carrot</b>	Any Soil except freshly manured	Every few days	Sunny or Semi-Shade	Pots, Beds or Growbag	Carrot or GreenFly	14 - 18 Weeks	Does not like freshly manured or stoney soil
<b>Chilli Pepper</b>	Compost	Regularly (Every 1 or 2 days)	Sunny but Sheltered	Pots, Beds or Growbag	White or Greenfly	18 - 20 Weeks	Requires watering regularly if in pots.
<b>Courgette</b>	Compost, fertilised soil	Regularly (Every 1 or 2 days)	Sunny or Semi-Shade	Beds or Pots	Slugs and Snails	12 - 16 Weeks	Check fruit rot & slugs.
<b>Cucumber</b>	Compost	Regularly (Every 1 or 2 days)	Sunny but Sheltered	Pots, Beds or Growbag	Slugs	Indoor: 12 Outdoor: 14	Regular watering once fruit is set.
<b>Fennel</b>	Fertilised Soil	Every few days	Sunny but Sheltered	Beds	Prone to Bolting	14 - 16 Weeks	Prone to bolting in hot periods
<b>Kohl Rabi</b>	Any soil	Every few days	Sunny or Semi-Shade	Beds or Pots	Slugs and Snails	8 - 12 Weeks	Check regularly for slugs & snails
<b>Parsnip</b>	Compost, fertilised soil	Every few days	Sunny or Semi-Shade	Beds	Whitefly	30 - 34 Weeks	Long time in ground, take care not to disturb surrounding soil
<b>Pepper</b>	Compost	Regularly (Every 1 or 2 days)	Sunny but Sheltered	Pots, Beds or Growbag	White or Greenfly	18 - 20 Weeks	Pot into compost & bigger pots. Water Regularly.
<b>Pumpkin</b>	Compost, fertilised soil	Every few days	Sunny but sheltered	Beds	Slugs and Snails	12 - 16 Weeks	Lift fruits onto cardboard or straw to prevent rot
<b>Swede</b>	Fertilised Soil	Every few days	Sunny or Semi-Shade	Beds	Slugs and Snails	20 - 24 Weeks	Check regularly for slugs & snails

## RATING: 4 - TRICKY

The following vegetables are not hard to grow, they are just a bit tricky as specialist attention is required for a particular pest or disease or other requirements for concentrated periods of time.

VEGETABLE	SOIL TYPE	WATERING	LOCATION	POT/ BED	PESTS	NO OF WEEKS TO GROW	ATTENTION
<b>Asparagus</b>	Compost, fertilised soil	Every few days	Sheltered & Sunny	Bed	Slugs, Frost, Rot	2 Years	Requires weeding, space & soil preparation
<b>Broccoli</b>	Compost, fertilised soil	Regularly (Every 1 or 2 days)	Sunny	Bed	Pigeons, Caterpillars, Slugs	Green: 12 Purple & White: 44	Prone to Bolting, soil needs to be firm and rich.
<b>Brussels Sprouts</b>	Compost, fertilised soil	Regularly (Every 1 or 2 days)	Sunny but sheltered	Bed	Slugs, Caterpillars	28 - 36 Weeks	Will need staking. Check for snails & Slugs regularly
<b>Cauliflower</b>	Compost, fertilised soil	Very Regularly (Every day)	Sunny	Bed	Slugs, Aphids, Frost	Summer: 24 Winter: 45	Requires constant attention and very regular watering
<b>Sweet Potato</b>	Compost, fertilised soil	Every few days	Sunny but Sheltered	Grow bag, Pot or Bed	Rot, Slugs	15 - 17 Weeks	Needs weed free and free draining soil. Protect from frost.
<b>Sweetcorn</b>	Compost, fertilised soil	Regularly (Every 1 or 2 days)	Sunny but Sheltered	Bed	Frit Fly	14 - 16 Weeks	Must have good drainage and humus in soil



## CHOOSE YOUR VEGETABLES

What will you be growing on your vegetable plot or in pots?

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- 3.
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- 5.
- 6.
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- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

Write down the vegetables you would like to grow in your vegetable garden or in pots or growbags. Save this vegetable list for Part 3 in the Planning Your Vegetable Garden Series.