



## Asparagus Planting Guide

### About Asparagus

Asparagus is widely cultivated as a vegetable crop and is a perennial flowering plant that takes on average 3 years to harvest from seed. Its young shoots are used as a spring vegetable.

### When to Plant

Depending on the temperature of the soil, it can take asparagus seeds up to 2 months to germinate. Time the planting to be ready to transplant the shoots 10-12 weeks later in your perennial bed. This transplant should take place during early spring, after all danger of frost has passed.

### Where to Plant

Plant seeds in well-drained soil, preferably in flat beds that are placed where they can receive full sun before transplanting to the garden. Keep in mind that the asparagus plant is long-lived and loyal, staying in the garden for 15 years or longer! Choose your planting site wisely.

### How to Plant

Sow seeds about 1" deep. To transplant your asparagus crowns, dig trenches 12" wide and 6" deep. Soak the crowns in compost tea for 20 minutes before planting. Place crowns 1 1/2 to 2' apart and top them with 2-3" of soil.

### Caring for Asparagus

Asparagus plants need 1-2" of water per week. Gently hand-pull weeds to avoid disturbing the roots. When plants are 3 years old and about 8-10" tall, cut spears slightly below soil level being careful not to damage underground spears on their way up.