



Beets Planting Guide

About Beets

Beets are annual, easy to grow root vegetables that are sweet and tender. They can be harvested as early as 65 days after planting.

When to Plant

Plant in cooler weather when soil is above 40 degrees F. Those in southern states can grow beets throughout the entire winter season, but otherwise wait until soil can easily be worked or approximately 4 weeks after the last hard frost.

Where to Plant

Beets can be started indoors and then transplanted outdoors. The best color and flavor of beets develop under cool conditions and bright sun. They require adequate moisture and space to grow rapidly.

How to Plant

Plant about 3/4" deep and 1" apart in rows of approximately 12-18" spacing.

Caring for Beets

After germination when seedlings are 4-5" tall, the plant will need to be thinned. For early harvesting of small, cylindrical roots, thin to 3-4" apart. For later harvests of larger roots, thin to 6"+ spacing. Take care when thinning to not disturb the nearby developing roots. When harvesting, beets should be separated from their tops, leaving about 1" of stem on the root. Beet greens are also nutritious, but must be stored separately -- greens stored intact with the root will continue to draw moisture from the root, and will result in a shriveled and flavorless root. Fresh beets can be stored in the refrigerator for several weeks, or preserved by canning, pickling, or freezing.