



Kohlrabi Planting Guide

About Kohlrabi

Kohlrabi, often called the "German turnip", is a biennial vegetable and a low, stout cultivar of wild cabbage. It possesses a stunning color and a deliciously mild taste, often eaten raw or cooked.

When to Plant

If you are planting your kohlrabi seeds in the spring, plant the seeds outside 4-6 weeks before your area's last average frost. If you want to sow your kohlrabi seeds in the fall, plant them indoors 6-8 weeks before the last frost and then transplant them outside when the seedlings grow to be about 4" tall. Kohlrabi planted in the fall will have a sweeter taste due to being hardened off by the incoming cool weather.

Where to Plant

Kohlrabi needs at least 6 hours of full sun each day; more is better. Give it fertile, well-drained, moist soil with plenty of rich and organic matter. A soil pH between 6.5 and 6.8 discourages clubroot disease.

How to Plant

Plant your seeds or transplanted seedlings about 1/4" deep with 4-6" between each seed or seedling. Rows should be about 24" apart.

Caring for Kohlrabi

Keep soil moist by giving plants 1-1.5" of water each week. Seedlings will emerge within 4-7 days and will be ready to harvest 40-60 days from planting. Harvest your kohlrabi when the "bulbs" are about 2" in diameter. Cut the bulb from the root with a sharp knife. Position your knife at soil level, just under the bulb. Pull the leaves off of the upper stems and wash before cooking. You can use the leaves as you would cabbage leaves. Peel off the outer skin from the bulb using a paring knife and eat the bulb raw or cook as you would a turnip.