

HOW TO GROW - GARLIC

Fun facts-Garlic was first domesticated in central Asia by ancient Indians, from where it spread out in 3rd millennia BC.

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Basic growing information-

- *Planting times-
November-April*
- *Site requirements- full sun,
well drained and nutrient
rich.*
- *Temperatures-two month
chilling period after planting
at 0-10 celsius for bulb
development.*

GARLIC TYPES


Two main types

- *Hardneck- produce an edible flower stem(a scape) these are a good choice if you want to eat both the bulb and scape.*
 - *Red duke*
 - *elephant*
- *Softneck- don't produce a stem and are stored for longer*
 - *Picady wight*
 - *Germidour*

WHEN TO PLANT THEM

Garlic bulbs grow better when planted in the autumn time- this is due to the longer, cooler growing season. Some say that planting before christmas gives the best results. Although garlic can be planted from november to march.

If you keep it in those time frames then that should allow the two month cool period the garlic needs to grow and develop.



HOW TO PLANT THEM

Separate the bulb into individual cloves and plant them so their lengthwise up, with the area the root grew from at the bottom (this is distinguishable by the darker patch on one end, and it's not as pointy) plant them at double the depth of the clove.

If you have heavy, clay soil that is prone to being wet over winter and/ or takes a long time to dry out. Start them off indoors in cellular trays as they can be prone to rotting.



To grow them in cellular trays separate the garlic into its cloves and plant about 2cm deep- just multipurpose compost will do. Keep them in overwinter and plant out in the springtime

AFTERCARE AND TIPS

- *When garlic plants grow, their leaves dont shade or cover the soil, this makes them prone to weeds and causes the soil to be exposed and*

dry out. To combat this you can cover the ground around your garlic with a light mulch such as straw.

- *When weeding them you will need to do it by hand, otherwise you can risk damaging the bulb*
- *If when growing they send up a flower, just pick it off.*
- *When growing garlic don't water when the leaves start to yellow and fade, this signals the plant is nearly finished growing and any excess moisture can cause the bulb to rot.*

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