

# Spring Vegetable Gardening

Fresh, Healthy, Homegrown . . . words restaurants use describing the best meals on their menus. You can have better tasting food without ever leaving home. All it takes is a backyard veggie garden. Below are our tips for garden success.



## Site Selection

- Choose a sunny spot with 6+ hours of sun per day.
- Make sure there is a water source nearby and that the garden is easy to get to.

## Plan the Garden

- Pick veggies your family likes to eat.
- Make a simple garden design plan to organize your selections.

## Prepare the soil

- Amend the soil with rich, organic material, such as peat, cow manure or homemade compost. You can also use a pre-mixed soil such as Kerby's Planting Soil.
- Turn soil in the garden 2 to 3 weeks before planting, especially if using compost.

## Plant Seeds or Vegetable Seedlings

- Starting from seeds is economical and lets you find great varieties.
- Use planting guides to determine when to plant.
- Stagger planting times to extend harvest season.
- Try companion planting.

## Take Care of Your Veggies

- Water daily at first, and slowly reduce frequency.
- Fertilize weekly with Foxfarm's Grow-Big or monthly with Kerby's 8-4-8 or Gardentone.
- Check garden regularly for insects and disease, and be prepared to spray if needed.

## Pick when ripe and enjoy!

### Warm-Season Vegetables

#### Plant after last frost in Feb – Apr

- Corn and Beans
- Cantaloupes and Watermelons
- Cucumbers and Eggplant
- Okra and Peppers
- Squash and Zucchini
- Tomatoes

### Cool-Season Vegetables

#### Plant before it gets too hot in Feb – Mar

- Collards and Cabbage
- Lettuce and Spinach
- Broccoli and Cauliflower
- Radishes and Carrots

