

*** Know When to Sow Vegetable Seeds

<http://www.organicgardening.com/feature/0,7518,s1-5-19-212,00.html>

Timing is everything. To start your seeds on time, you need to know when in relation to the frost-free date in spring to plant them. If you need help determining your spring frost-free date, call your county extension agent who can tell you for certain.

Creating Your Seed-Starting Plan

- Write your frost-free date in the blank space at the top of the chart.
- Get a calendar and add or subtract the number of weeks in the "Safe to Set Out Time" column. This is the "Setting Out Date" when you can safely plant the crop to the garden. Write it in the last column.
- Take each date from Column 5 ("Setting Out Date"), subtract the number of weeks shown for that crop in column 3 ("Weeks from Sowing") and record that date in column 2 ("When to Start Inside").

YOUR SEED-STARTING PLAN				
The Spring Frost-Free Date in My Garden is <u>Memorial Day</u>				
CROP	WHEN TO START INSIDE	WEEKS FROM SOWING	SAFE TO SET OUT TIME (RELATIVE TO FROST-FREE DATE)	SETTING OUT DATE
Basil		6	1 week after	
Beets*		4-6	2 weeks before	
Broccoli		4-6	2 weeks before	
Cabbage		4-6	4 weeks before	
Cauliflower		4-6	2 weeks before	
Collards		4-6	4 weeks before	
Corn*		2-4	0 to 2 weeks after	
Cucumber		3-4	1 to 2 weeks after	
Eggplant		8-10	2 to 3 weeks after	
Kale		4-6	4 weeks before	
Kohlrabi*		4-6	4 weeks before	
Lettuce		4-5	3 to 4 weeks before	
Melons		3-4	2 weeks after	
Mustard*		4-6	4 weeks before	
Okra*		4-6	2 to 4 weeks after	
Onions		6-8	4 weeks before	
Parsley		9-10	2 to 3 weeks before	
Peas*		3-4	6 to 8 weeks before	
Peppers		6-14	2 weeks after	
Pumpkins		3-4	2 weeks after	
Spinach		4-6	3 to 6 weeks before	
Squash		3-4	2 weeks after	
Swiss chard		4-6	2 weeks before	
Tomatoes		6-8	1 to 2 weeks after	

* These crops are usually direct-seeded outdoors, but they can be started inside.