



## VEGETABLE AND HERB PLANTING RECOMMENDATIONS

From North to South and East to West, Alameda County has many different microclimates. Even your own garden may have several, depending on shade, wind or proximity to a reflective wall. So use this chart as a general guide for planting times.

Remember, most vegetables like at least 6 hours a day of sun. Summer veggies like corn and tomatoes like even more, while cool season crops like chard and lettuce can tolerate a little less.

Most of these recommendations are taken from Pam Pierce's book *Golden Gate Gardening*, with input from various Master Gardeners based on their own experience.

Cool Season	Notes	When to Plant
<b>Artichoke</b>	Large plant—needs space. Often gets aphids. From rootstock.	Oct – Dec
<b>Asian Greens</b>	Bok Choy, Chinese cabbage, mizuna, etc. Best in winter and spring. From seeds or seedlings.	Aug – April
<b>Asparagus</b>	Perennial; don't harvest 'til 3 <sup>rd</sup> spring. Lots of space. From crowns.	Jan – March
<b>Beets</b>	Year round, but best in winter. From seeds or seedlings.	Year round
<b>Broccoli</b>	Best in winter or early spring. From seedlings.	Jul – Sept; Feb – March
<b>Cabbage</b>	Best in winter or early spring. From seedlings.	Jul – Sept; Feb – March
<b>Carrots</b>	Year round. From seeds.	Feb – Aug
<b>Cauliflower</b>	Best in winter or early spring. From seedlings.	Jul – Sept; Feb – March
<b>Chard</b>	Year round in cooler microclimates. From seeds or seedlings.	Year round
<b>Collards</b>	Year round, but best in winter. From seeds or seedlings.	Year round
<b>Fava Beans</b>	Best in winter/spring. Nitrogen producer, good cover crop.	Jan – Mar, Sep - Nov
<b>Garlic</b>	Winter. From certified bulb cloves	Oct – Feb
<b>Kale</b>	Year round, but best in winter. From seeds or seedlings.	Year round
<b>Leeks</b>	Year round but best in winter and spring. From seeds or seedlings.	Feb – Oct
<b>Lettuce</b>	Year round in cooler microclimates. From seeds or seedlings.	Year round
<b>Mustard</b>	Year round in cooler microclimates, but best in winter. From seeds or seedlings.	Year round
<b>Onions (bulb)</b>	From seeds or sets (avail in fall), harvest late spring or summer.	Aug – March
<b>Onions (green)</b>	From seeds or sets. Can pick bulb onions when young.	Aug – March
<b>Peas (green/sugar)</b>	Best in winter or early spring. From seeds or seedlings.	Sept – Nov; Feb – March
<b>Potatoes</b>	Need lots of space. Use nursery seed potatoes to help prevent disease.	Feb; May; Aug
<b>Spinach</b>	Best in spring or winter. From seeds or seedlings.	Mar – Apr; Aug – Sept
Warm Season	Notes	When to Plant
<b>Corn</b>	Needs sun/heat. Marginal in cooler microclimates. From seeds.	Apr – July
<b>Cucumbers</b>	Best if grown with support.	Apr – June



<b>Beans (green)</b>	Bush or climbing (needs support). From seeds.	Apr – July
<b>Beans (shelling)</b>	Need more heat and take longer to mature than green beans. From seeds.	Apr – May
<b>Eggplant</b>	Needs warm nights; results marginal in cooler microclimates.	May
<b>Melons</b>	Heat loving. Try only in warmest microclimates and start early.	Apr – May
<b>Peppers (sweet)</b>	Need warm nights, minimal protection in cooler microclimates. From seedlings.	April – June
<b>Peppers (hot)</b>	More productive than sweet peppers in cooler microclimates. From seedlings.	April – June
<b>Squash (summer)</b>	Needs lots of space & produces heavily. From seeds or seedlings.	Apr – June
<b>Squash (winter)</b> (Includes pumpkins)	Needs lots of space; best grown with support. Long season – plant early. From seeds or seedlings.	Apr – June
<b>Tomato</b>	Heat lover. Needs warm nights (60°+) for good fruit-set. Early varieties do best (not heirlooms) in cooler microclimates. Best to have support – cages or stakes. Best not to grow successive years in the same spot to prevent disease buildup. From seedlings.	April – May

<b>Herbs</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>When to Plant</b>
<b>Basil</b>	Likes sun and heat. From seedlings.	April – June
<b>Cilantro</b>	Year round in cooler microclimates, but best in winter or spring. From seeds in successive plantings & harvest whole plants. Sun or partial shade. Bolts quickly in warm microclimates.	Year round
<b>Dill</b>	Likes sun and heat – not good in foggy or windy gardens.	April – June
<b>Mint</b>	Perennial; invasive, best grown in containers. Likes some shade, especially in warm months. From seedlings.	Year round
<b>Oregano</b>	Perennial; plant will spread. Full sun. From seedling.	Year round
<b>Parsley</b>	Year round – best fall to spring. Some shade OK. From seedlings.	Aug – Oct, Feb – April
<b>Sage</b>	Perennial; not fussy. Full sun. From seedlings.	Year round
<b>Tarragon (French)</b>	Perennial; dormant in winter. From seedling. Full sun.	Year round
<b>Thyme</b>	Perennial; plant will spread. Full sun. From seedling.	Year round