

# A Garden Planting Guide

by Laura C. Martin

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🌱 If you are creating a new bed, plan before you plant. Leave paths through the bed so you can easily access plants—especially those you will be picking or harvesting. Place the most useful plants (herbs, cut flowers and vegetables) in the most accessible places. Place taller plants at the back and shorter plants toward the front for aesthetic purposes. Be sure you can get water to all the plants easily.

	NAME (TYPE)	HOW TO PLANT	SIZE (OR SPACING)	LIGHT	NOTES
EARLY SPRING	<i>Flowers</i>				
	Dianthus (annual, perennial)	transplants	4"–24" tall	full sun to partial shade	Some types have long bloom time, such as Maiden pinks or Cottage pinks
	Pansies (annual)	transplants	2"–18" tall	full sun to partial shade	Blooms only in cool weather
	<i>Vegetables and Herbs</i>				
	Greens (annual vegetables)	transplants	plant 18" apart	full sun to partial shade	Loose-leaf lettuces withstand heat better than heading varieties; leaves can be harvested as the plants grow
	Oregano (perennial herb)	transplants	12"–24" tall	full sun	Pick leaves early in the day for seasoning sauces; egg dishes
	Onions (annual vegetable)	transplant sets	2"–3" apart (small), 6" apart (large)	full sun	Set out when soil is 45 degrees; about three months to harvest
	Parsley (biennial herb)	transplants	6"–12" tall	full sun	Full sun; can begin harvesting leaves almost immediately
MID-SPRING	Rosemary (herb shrub)	transplants	5"–72" tall	full sun	Hardy outdoors where temperatures do not drop below 10 degrees
	Strawberries (short-lived perennial)	transplants	plant 12"–18" apart	full sun	Bears fruit in three to six weeks, generally in early summer
	<i>Flowers</i>				
	Begonia (annual)	transplants	6"–12" tall	partial to full shade	Fertilize regularly; bronze-leaved varieties tolerate more sun
	Cosmos (annual)	seeds or transplants	12"–72" tall	full sun	Do not fertilize; stake if necessary; use as cut flowers; easy to grow
	Impatiens (annual)	transplants	6"–10" tall	partial shade	Blooms well all summer; cannot tolerate frost; fertilize every six weeks
	Verbena (annual)	transplants	8"–48" tall	full sun	Attracts butterflies; keep tips pinched off to encourage branching; drought tolerant
	Vinca (annual)	transplants	4"–14" tall	full sun to partial shade	Mulch and fertilize; cut back in late summer to encourage growth for early fall; easy to grow
LATE SPRING	<i>Vegetables and Herbs</i>				
	Broccoli (annual)	transplants	plant 18"–24" apart	full sun	Cut center head and a few inches of stalk when harvesting; does not grow well in heat
	Dill (biennial herb)	seeds	36" tall	full sun	Grow for leaves or seeds; flowers July through September; seeds usually come beginning of second year
LATE SPRING	<i>Flowers</i>				
	Garden phlox (perennial)	transplants	12"–36" tall	full sun (partial shade in warmer regions)	Plant in rich soils; provide lots of moisture; fragrant, beautiful blooms
	Cockscomb (annual)	transplants	4"–18" tall	full sun	Fertilize every four weeks; good for dried flowers; blooms from late spring through fall; easy to grow
	Sunflower (annual)	seeds	2'–12' tall	full sun	For continual bloom, plant every two weeks until mid-summer; stake taller varieties; blooms mid-to-late summer; easy to grow
	<i>Vegetables and Herbs</i>				
	Basil (annual herb)	seeds	12"–24" tall	full sun	Will not tolerate frost; great to use in salads and in cooking; plant different flavors
	Beans (annual)	seeds	plant 2" apart	full sun	Plant in rows or hills; irrigate heavily; weed diligently; about 55 to 60 days until harvest
	Cucumber (annual vine)	seeds or transplants	plant in hills	full sun	Cukes take a lot of room, leave at least 3 feet between hills
Tomato (annual)	transplants	space 3 feet apart for large varieties	full sun at least 6 to 8 hours per day	Must be warm for good fruit production; water 1 inch per week	