

A Guide to: Sowing Seeds



Shopping List

- Seeds
- Container with cover
- Fertilizer granules
- Soil
- Heating Pad
- Grow Light



1.

Select Your Seeds

Check the seed packet for

- ✓ expiration date
- ✓ number of weeks to germination
- ✓ planting depth
- ✓ watering requirements
- ✓ light requirements



2.

Select Your Container

Germination: the point when a seed begins to grow into a seedling. Germination signals the end of dormancy & the start of new shoots.

3.

Select A Seed Starting Soil

Choose a mix that is lightweight, with no fertilizer or fine particles, and that doesn't retain too much water.



we recommend
Espoma Organic Seed Starter mix

Questions? Answers:
AskHomestead@homesteadgardens.com

4.

Plant Your Seeds

1. Start with a thin layer of soil
2. Moisten soil lightly
3. Scarify your seeds
4. Add fertilizer granules
5. Repeat Step 1
6. Add seeds, about 3-4 per cell
7. Repeat Step 1, water lightly
8. Cover; set in a warm, lit place

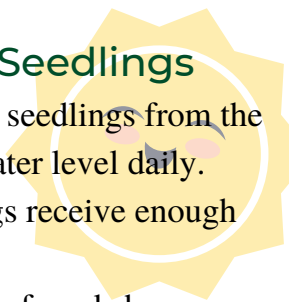


Scarification: Nicking or scratching the outer coating of hard seeds to speed germination.

5.

Caring for Seedlings

- ✓ Always water your seedlings from the bottom. Check the water level daily.
- ✓ Make sure seedlings receive enough light and warmth.
- ✓ When the majority of seeds have sprouted, remove the cover to prevent seedling wilt.



6.

Harden Off Seedlings

Once seeds have a set of "true leaves" you can begin to take them outside, after chance of frost, in increasing increments of time each day, for 6-10 days.

7.

Transfer Seedlings to the Garden.



Have a question? Email
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