# Starting a Summer Victory Garden

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# Tips for getting started

# Location

Choose a space that is mostly sunny and level. You want it to be welldrained so water doesn't collect. If planting on a hillside, place rows across the hill, not up and down.

### Size

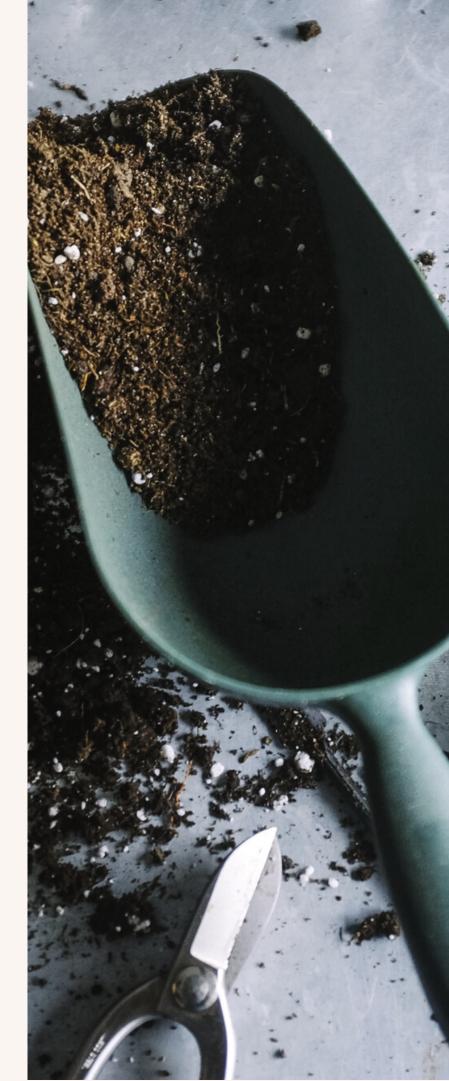
A 15' x 10' is a good starter size for 1 – 2 people. A 20' x 30' or even a 25' x 50' is a good size for a family with children. If you are new to gardening, don't start with too large a size.

### Soil

Good fertile soil is the key to gardening success. Garden soil and some composted manure will give you a god start.

### Water

Most vegetables need an inch of rainfall or water every 7 - 10 days.





# Insects

To attract good insects and deter the bad ones, consider adding flowers throughout your garden or around the perimeter. Petunias and marigolds are good choices.

# How much to grow

Don't grow what you won't eat. Don't plant more than you need; overplanting uses time and energy.

VEGETABLE	# PER PERSON	FERTILI
Beans	5–10plants	Once wh
Cabbage	6-12 plants (1 plant = 1 head)	Once wh
Lettuce & Greens	8–10 plants	After sec
Broccoli	6-12 plants (1 plant = 1 head)	2x, plant
Cucumber	2-3 vines	2x, plant
Cauliflower	6-12 plants (1 plant = 1 head)	2x, plant
Peppers	2 – 3 plants	2x, plant
Squash & Zucchini	1 – 2 plants	2x, plant
Tomatoes	2 plants	3x, plant
Corn	12 – 20 (1 stalk = @2 ears)	2x, plant

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## PLANT

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# Harvesting

Harvesting when ripe gives you the best tasting and most nutritious produce. Here are some estimates:

VEGETABLE	# DAYS	WHEN TO HARVEST
Beans	60	When the pods are at least 3
Cabbage	65-90	When the heads are full and
Lettuce & Greens	35-55	When tender, start with oute
Broccoli	50-65	Before the flowers/heads he
Cucumber	55-65	When 1-2" in diameter and c
Cauliflower	55-75	Before the heads loosen or l
Peppers	75-95	When full size and firm. (if le
Squash & Zucchini	60	When it is at least 2" in diam
Tomatoes	80-90	After fruit has turned mostly
Corn	75-95	When the silk begins to dry c

3" long and snap easily d heavy er leaves nave yellow around 5" long loses its white color eft on plant will turn red or orange) meter and the skin is tender v red but still firm and the kernels are full

# Growing Herbs

Just like vegetables, herbs taste better fresh from the garden.

- Can grow well in pots or containers
- Needs a sunny location like a windowsill or your front steps
- Very cost efficient
- Can grow more than one type of herb in the same pot



# Herbs

#### NAME WATER

Cilantro Thyme Basil Parsley Chives Mint Oregano

water well water lightly water medium water well water lightly water medium water lightly

## USE

Popular in Mexican dishes and paired with avocado Use for seasoning beef, lamb, or fish Use in casseroles and omelets Use in place of onions in salads, spread, or dips Great for making tea or jelly, pairs well with fruit Works well in pasta and with red meat

- Great in sauces and soups, pairs well with tomatoes, makes pesto

# Herbs

# **Harvesting Herbs**

When the plants are a few months old, you can begin harvesting some of the leaves and stem. Try to take no more that 25% - 50% at a time or the plant will die.

# **Drying Herbs**

Place herbs on a cookie sheet in a 170 degree oven for 2 hours. Make sure herbs are completely dry and store in a sealed plastic or glass container.





# Resources

A spade or shovel is good for digging holes or and planting

- Fiskars Transplanting Spade
- Fiskars Garden Trowel

A hoe is good for weeding

• <u>2-sided Cultivating Hoe</u>

A tine or manure fork is good to break up soil and aerate. • <u>4 tine Digging Fork</u>

A wheelbarrow makes it easier to move and spread soil, compost, and fertilizer

# TOOLS



# Resources

### **GARDENING INFORMATION**

<u>Harvest to Table</u> is a wonderful

growing resource

### **SEEDS**

seeds.

<u>Mlgardener</u> **Botanical Interests** Park Seed

### Here are some of our favorite places to buy



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