



## Calendula Planting Guide

### About Calendulas

A non-stop heirloom favorite, Calendula has long been beloved for its prolific bloom! Also sometimes known as "pot marigold", Calendula seeds are notoriously easy to grow. Calendula is typically grown for its floral beauty, but it is also famously used as an edible flower as well.

### When to Plant

Start seeds indoors 6-8 weeks before the last frost date or sow directly in the garden just before the last frost date. Start an additional set of seedlings in the summer for optimal flowering.

### Where to Plant

Calendula performs best in full sun, in average, moderately fertile, well-drained soils. Light shade is tolerated in hot summer areas. These blooms are a great selection for beds, borders, rock gardens, mass plantings, and even vegetable or herb gardens!

### How to Plant

Press seeds on top of the soil and spread a 1/4" layer of soil over them. Mist seeds until the top 1/2" is moist. Cover with plastic wrap, poking a few holes for air circulation, and set near a window that get about 6 hours of sun per day, or use fluorescent lights. After germination occurs, after about 5-14 days, remove the plastic wrap. After the seedlings develop their second set of true leaves, and after the danger of frost has passed, transplant into your outdoor garden, spacing seedlings 8-10" apart.

### Caring for Calendulas

Keep plants moist and add compost around the base of established plants. Carefully monitor your plants for pests, particularly slugs and snails. Young plants may be pinched back to promote compact, bushy growth. Deadhead your blooms and pick flowers to encourage abundant growth. Pick and add flowers and leaves to soups, salads, or rice dishes!