Growing Potatoes from Seed Potatoes

Start with Seed Potatoes – Enjoy a Bigger Harvest!



Potatoes are grown from "seed potatoes," which are pieces of potato tuber with eyes. Using good seed potatoes helps you grow healthy plants and a bountiful harvest!



THE POTATO JOURNEY

1. Planting

Plant seed potatoes in spring after the last frost.



2. Growing

Plants grow leaves and stems. Tubers develop underground.



3. Harvest

In mid to late summer, dig and enjoy your homegrown potatoes!



HOW TO USE SEED POTATOES

1 CHOOSE GOOD SEED POTATOES

Buy certified seed potatoes from a garden center or catalog. Look for firm potatoes with healthy eyes (buds).



2 CUT (IF NEEDED)

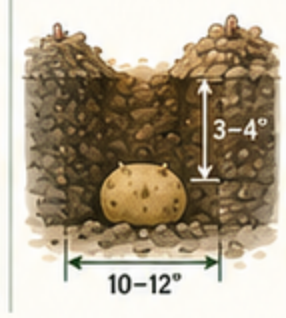
If potatoes are large, cut them into pieces with 1–2 eyes per piece. Let cut pieces dry in a warm place for 1–2 days to form a protective skin.



Do not cut small potatoes—plant them whole!

3 PLANT

Plant 3–4 inches deep and 10–12 inches apart.



4 GROW & HILL

As plants grow, hill soil around the stems to cover lower leaves. Repeat every few weeks.



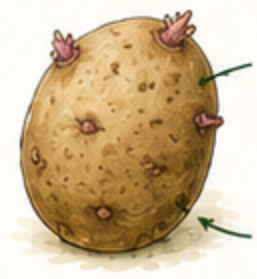
5 CARE & WATER

Keep plants well-watered. Consistent moisture helps potatoes grow big and smooth.



WHAT SEED POTATOES LOOK LIKE

WHOLE SEED POTATO



"Eyes" are tiny buds that grow into sprouts

Firm and healthy, not soft or wrinkled

CUT SEED POTATO (1–2 EYES PER PIECE)



Each piece should have at least one good eye

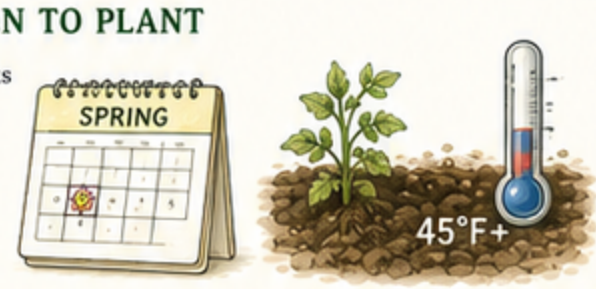
GOOD TO KNOW

- Use certified seed potatoes, not store-bought potatoes. They are tested for disease.
- Popular varieties: Yukon Gold, Red Norland, Russet, Kennebec.
- Seed potatoes are not the same as true "seeds" from flowers.



WHEN TO PLANT

Plant in spring 2–4 weeks after the last frost, when soil is at least 45°F (7°C).



HARVESTING

Harvest when plants start to yellow and die back. Gently dig in the soil and lift your potatoes. Let them dry for a few hours before storing.



STORING SEED POTATOES BEFORE PLANTING

Store in a cool (40–50°F), dry, well-ventilated place with good light to keep sprouts short and stubby. Do not refrigerate.



STORING HARVESTED POTATOES

Store in a cool (40–50°F), dark, dry place with good air circulation.

Do not wash until ready to use.



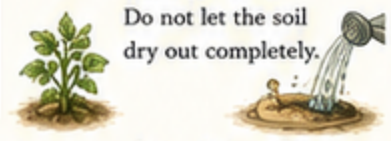
TIPS FOR SUCCESS

FULL SUN
Potatoes need at least 6–8 hours of sunlight each day.



GOOD SOIL
Loose, well-drained soil helps potatoes grow big and prevents rot.

CONSISTENT WATER
About 1–2 inches of water per week. Do not let the soil dry out completely.



ROTATE CROPS
Plant potatoes in a different spot each year to help avoid disease.



LABEL & DATE
Keep track of the variety and planting date for best results year after year!



Good Seed Potatoes = Healthy Plants = A Bountiful Harvest!

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