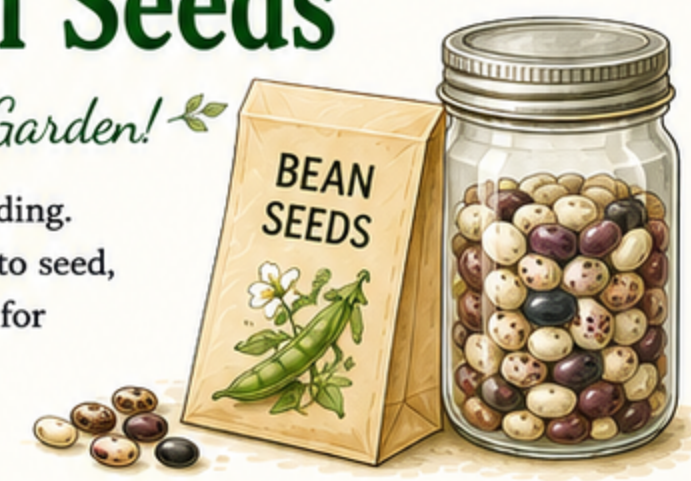


Harvesting Bean Seeds

Save Today for Next Year's Garden!

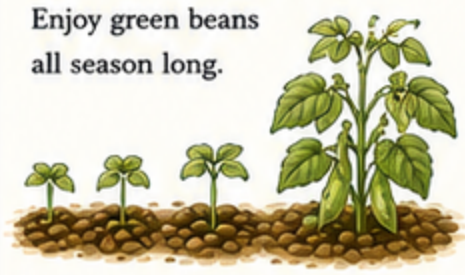
Saving bean seeds is easy and rewarding.
Let a few of your healthiest plants go to seed,
and you'll have a bountiful supply for
next year's planting.



THE BEAN JOURNEY

Year 1 – Plant & Grow

Plant bean seeds in spring after the soil has warmed. Enjoy green beans all season long.



Year 2 – Seed Production

Let some of the best plants keep growing. They will flower, make pods, and produce seeds for next year.



HOW TO HARVEST BEAN SEEDS

1 SELECT PLANTS

Choose 2–3 of the healthiest, most productive plants. Let them finish their natural life cycle.



2 LET THE PODS MATURE

Allow the pods to mature fully on the plant. They will change from green to yellow, tan, or brown and become dry and papery.



3 CHECK FOR DRY PODS

Pods are ready when you cannot dent them with your fingernail and they rattle slightly when shaken.



Pods should be dry and hard.

4 HARVEST

Pick or cut the entire plant, or just the dry pods. Place in a paper bag or bucket.



5 THRESH & COLLECT

When pods are completely dry, open them by hand and remove the seeds. Discard broken, shriveled, or insect-damaged seeds.



HOW TO KNOW WHEN BEAN PODS ARE READY



Young Pods
Green, soft, and tender. Not ready!

Maturing Pods
Pods begin to change color.

Drying Pods
Pods turn yellow, tan, or brown and become dry.

Ready to Harvest
Pods are brittle, hard, and rattle when shaken.

GOOD TO KNOW

- Beans are self-pollinating, but different varieties can cross. Plant only one variety (or keep different varieties at least 1/4 mile apart) for true-to-type seeds.
- Save seeds from the best plants—strong growth, disease resistance, and great flavor.
- One plant can produce dozens of pods and hundreds of seeds!

DRYING THE PODS & SEEDS

1. Spread the plants or pods in a single layer in a warm, dry, well-ventilated place out of direct sun.
2. Allow pods to dry for 1–2 weeks until very brittle.
3. Shell the pods and remove the seeds.
4. Winnow: Pour seeds from one container to another to blow away chaff.
5. Let seeds sit in a single layer for a few more days to ensure they are completely dry.



STORING BEAN SEEDS

Store in a cool, dark, dry place.

Use an airtight jar, glass container, or paper envelope inside a jar.

Properly stored bean seeds remain viable for 3–5 years.



TIPS FOR SUCCESS

FULL SUN
Beans need at least 6–8 hours of sunlight daily.

GOOD SOIL
Loose, fertile soil helps plants grow strong and produce well.

CONSISTENT WATER
Water regularly, but do not overwater. Strong roots grow strong plants.

PATIENCE PAYS
The longer you let pods ripen and dry on the plant, the better your seeds will be.

LABEL & DATE
Always label your seeds with the variety name and date harvested.



Save Seeds. Share Abundance. Grow the Future!

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