



Collecting Carrot Seeds

Save Today for Next Year's Harvest!

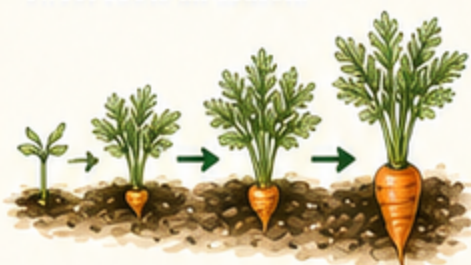
Carrots are biennial plants. They grow roots the first year and produce flowers and seeds the second year. Saving your own carrot seeds is easy and helps you enjoy strong, healthy plants year after year!



THE CARROT JOURNEY

Year 1 – Root Growth

Plant carrot seeds. Enjoy the sweet roots all season.



Year 2 – Seed Production

Leave the healthiest carrots in the ground over winter. In spring, they send up tall flower stalks, bloom, and set seeds.



HOW TO HARVEST CARROT SEEDS

1

SELECT PLANTS

Choose 2–3 of the best, healthiest carrots. Look for straight, true-to-type roots.



2

OVERWINTER

Leave the carrots in the ground over winter. Mulch well with leaves or straw to protect the roots from freezing.



3

SPRING GROWTH

In spring, the carrots will send up tall flower stalks with feathery leaves.



4

WATCH THE SEEDS

The white flowers form umbels (flat, round flower clusters). They turn green, then tan and dry as the seeds mature. This usually takes 4–6 weeks after flowering.



5

HARVEST

Cut the seed heads when most are dry and brown, but before they shatter and fall to the ground.



WHAT CARROT SEED HEADS LOOK LIKE



Flowering
White flower umbels in full bloom.



Early Seed Formation
Tiny green seeds begin to form.



Maturing Seeds
Seeds turn tan and begin to dry.



Ready to Harvest
Seed heads are dry and brown. Seeds are hard.

GOOD TO KNOW

- Carrots cross-pollinate easily. Isolate from other carrot varieties by at least 1/2 mile for true seeds.
- One plant can produce hundreds to thousands of seeds!



DRYING AND EXTRACTING SEEDS

- Hang cut seed heads upside down in a warm, dry place out of direct sunlight for 1–2 weeks.
- When completely dry, place the heads in a large bowl or on a tray.
- Rub or gently crush the heads to release the seeds.
- Pour into a winnowing basket or colander and shake to remove chaff and debris.
- Store clean seeds in an envelope or jar.



STORING CARROT SEEDS

Store in a cool, dark, dry place. Properly stored carrot seeds remain viable for 3–5 years.



TIPS FOR SUCCESS



ISOLATION

Keep carrot seed plants at least 1/2 mile away from other carrot varieties to prevent cross-pollination and keep seeds true.



STRONG PLANTS

Choose the best carrots from your garden—disease-free, well-shaped, and true to type.



PATIENCE

Let the seed heads fully mature and dry on the plant for the best quality seeds.



LABEL & DATE

Always label your seeds with the variety name and date.



Save Seeds. Share Abundance. Grow the Future!