

SPRING GARDENING CHECKLIST



Spring is when the season's workload really begins! Start seeds indoors for tomatoes, peppers, and other slow-to-mature crops, six to eight weeks before your last frost date. Prepare garden beds by working in compost or aged manure, and get any needed soil testing done early while there is still time to correct problems before planting.

As the soil warms and frost danger passes, direct-sow cold-hardy crops like peas, lettuce, and spinach, and begin hardening off any seedlings you started indoors before transplanting them out. Set up supports for peas, tomatoes, and anything else that will need a trellis or cage before it grows too large to handle easily.



1 START SEEDS INDOORS

Start seeds indoors for tomatoes, peppers, and other slow-to-mature crops, 6–8 weeks before your last frost date.



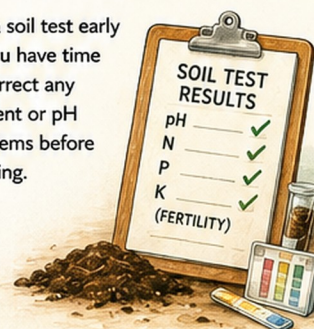
2 PREPARE GARDEN BEDS

Work compost or aged manure into the soil to improve fertility and structure.



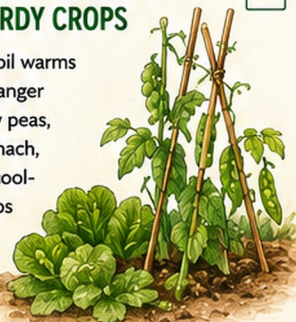
3 TEST YOUR SOIL

Get a soil test early so you have time to correct any nutrient or pH problems before planting.



4 DIRECT-SOW COLD-HARDY CROPS

Once the soil warms and frost danger passes, sow peas, lettuce, spinach, and other cool-season crops directly in the garden.



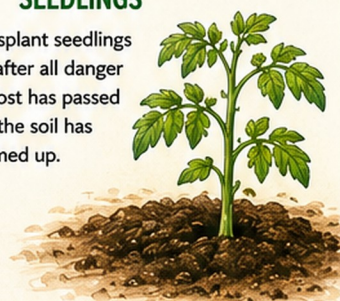
5 HARDEN OFF SEEDLINGS

Gradually acclimate indoor-started seedlings to outdoor conditions before transplanting them into the garden.



6 TRANSPLANT SEEDLINGS

Transplant seedlings out after all danger of frost has passed and the soil has warmed up.



7 SET UP SUPPORTS EARLY

Install trellises, cages, or stakes for peas, tomatoes, and other climbing or tall plants before they grow too large to handle.



A little prep in spring leads to a big harvest all season long!

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