


Soil Temperatures for Planting Seeds/Seedlings

Regardless what zone you live in, the temperature of your soil will make or break if your seeds germinate and also how long they take to grow. This quick guide gives you both the minimum temperature the soil needs and the optimum (best) temperatures for planting.

TP = Transplant

* Excellent for container gardening



Vegetable	Min. Soil Temp °F	Ideal Soil Temp °F	Best Planting Dates
Artichoke*	60	65-85	TP 3-4 weeks before last frost
Arugula*	60	65-85	May 1-Aug 1
Asian Greens	60	65-85	early May
Asparagus	50	55-85	4-6 weeks before last frost
Beans, Fava	40	40-75	ASAP
Beans, Lima	60	70-85	late May
Beans, Soy	60	70-90	June 1
Beans*-Bush, Pole	60	60-80	late May
Beets*	40	60-85	April-July
Broccoli*	50	65-85	May/ June
Brussel Sprouts*	50	65-85	May/ June
Cabbage*	40	55-95	May/ June
Carrots*	40	60-85	Apr-July
Cauliflower*	40	55-80	TP May/ June
Celery*	40	59-70*	TP June 1
Swiss Chard*	40	50-85	ASAP
Chicory	50	60-85	TP late June
Chinese Cabbage*	50	70-95	late May or TP
Collards	50	65-85	ASAP July
Corn*	50	60-95	late May
Cress*	50	55-75	ASAP early spring
Cucumber	60	65-95	June 1 or TP
Eggplant*	60	75-90	TP or early June



Soil Temperatures for Planting Seeds/Seedlings



Vegetable	Min. Soil Temp °F	Ideal Soil Temp °F	Best Planting Dates
Endive*	50	60-85	Apr-July
Gourds	60	70-90	late May-early June
Kale*	50	65-85	ASAP July
Kohlrabi*	50	65-85	TP May/ June
Leeks*	50	60-70	TP May 1
Lettuce-fall crop*	40	45-80	4-8 weeks before first frost
Lettuce-spring crop*	40	45-80	30 days before last frost
Melon	60	75-95	TP early June
Okra	60	70-90	TP Early June
Onion*	50	60-70	TP May 1
Pak Choi*	50	70-95	May or TP
Parsnip	46	55-77	Apr-July
Peas*	40	50-75	4-6 weeks before last frost
Peas for fall crop*	40	50-75	July
Peppers*	60	68-95	TP early June
Potatoes*	40	45-80	ASAP early spring
Pumpkin*	60	70-90	late May
Radicchio*	50	60-85	late June
Radishes*	40	55-85	Apr-Aug
Rutabaga	40	60-95	Apr-July
Shallots	50	60-70	TP May 1
Spinach*	35	45-65	ASAP early spring
Spinach for fall crop*	35	45-65	Aug
Squash*	60	70-90	late May or TP
Tomatoes*	50	60-85	TP June 1-10
Turnips*	40	60-95	Apr-July
Watermelon	60	75-95	TP early June
Zucchini	60	70-90	late May or TP

