

# GARDENING SCHEDULES

BEGINNERS GUIDE TO GARDENING



# VEGETABLE GARDEN SCHEDULE

Vegetable		Beetroot	Broccoli	Cabbage	Carrots	Cauliflower	Courgette	Cucumber	Garlic	Kale	Leeks	Lettuce	Onion	Peas	Potatoes	Radish	Spinach	Tomatoes
Month to Sow	January																	
	February																	
	March																	
	April																	
	May																	
	June																	
	July																	
	August																	
	September																	
	October																	
	November																	
	December																	
Month to Harvest	January																	
	February																	
	March																	
	April																	
	May																	
	June																	
	July																	
	August																	
	September																	
	October																	
	November																	
	December																	
Tools required	Trowel																	
	Garden Fork																	
	Watering Can																	
	Hoe																	
	Spade																	
	Secateurs																	
	Garden Canes																	
	Twine																	

## Great Varieties for Novices

<b>Beetroot</b>	Detroit Dark Red, Boltardy	<b>Leeks</b>	Musselburgh, Lyon 2
<b>Broccoli</b>	Calabrese, Purple Sprouting	<b>Lettuce</b>	Little Gem, Salad Bowl, Lollo Rossa
<b>Cabbage</b>	Savoy, January King, Golden Acre	<b>Onion</b>	Sturon, Red Baron
<b>Carrots</b>	Early Nantes, Chantenay	<b>Peas</b>	Early Onward, Kelvedon Wonder
<b>Cauliflower</b>	All Year Round, Snowball	<b>Potatoes</b>	Maris Piper, King Edward, Charlotte
<b>Courgette</b>	Zucchini, Black Beauty	<b>Radish</b>	French Breakfast, Cherry Belle
<b>Cucumber</b>	Telegraph Improved, Marketmore	<b>Spinach</b>	Perpetual Spinach, Giant Winter
<b>Garlic</b>	Early Purple Wight, Germidour	<b>Tomatoes</b>	Gardeners Delight, Roma
<b>Kale</b>	Curly Kale, Red Russian		

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# FLOWERING SUCCESSION PLANNER

Plant Name	Plant Type					Flowering/ Blooming Season				Best Month(s)											
	Bulb	Perennial	Tree	Shrub	Ornamental Grass	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Winter	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Snowdrop																					
Winter Aconite																					
Crocus																					
Hellebore																					
Witch Hazel																					
Skimmia																					
Daffodil																					
Tulip																					
Cherry Blossom																					
Bluebell																					
Magnolia																					
Rhododendron																					
Peony																					
Azalea																					
Camellia																					
Allium																					
Delphinium																					
Lavender																					
Rose																					
Miscanthus																					
Hydrangea																					
Dahlia																					
Sedum																					
Autumn Crocus																					
Japanese Anemone																					
Japanese Maple																					
Witch Hazel																					
Holly																					

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# LAWN MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

Month	Task	Description	Tools/ Products Required
January	Winter clean up	Remove any leaves, branches or debris that have fallen on the lawn	Lawn rake, Garden waste bags
February	Lawn repair	Repair any bare patches or damaged areas with grass seed or turf	Grass seed or turf, Garden rake, Topsoil
March	Lawn care	Begin regular mowing, gradually reducing the cutting height to prepare for spring growth	Lawn mower, Gasoline or electric for power
April	Aeration	Create small holes in the soil to allow air, water, and nutrients to penetrate the root zone	Aerator, Gasoline or electric for power
May	Fertilising	Apply a balanced fertiliser to provide essential nutrients to the grass	Lawn fertiliser, Spreader, Water hose
June	Watering	Provide water to the lawn as needed, especially during periods of drought	Sprinkler, Water hose, Water timer
July	Edging	Trim the grass along the edges of the lawn for a neat appearance	Edger, Gasoline or electric for power
August	Overseeding	Plant grass seed in an existing lawn to thicken it and fill in bare patches	Grass seed, Seed spreader, Garden rake
September	Fertilising	Apply an autumn fertiliser to provide essential nutrients to the grass and promote root growth	Lawn fertiliser, Spreader, Water hose
October	Mowing	Raise the cutting height for the final mowing of the season	Lawn mower, Gasoline or electric for power
November	Leaf removal	Remove fallen leaves to prevent them from smothering the lawn	Lawn rake, Leaf blower, Garden waste bags
December	Winterising	Apply a winteriser fertiliser to protect the grass and promote root growth during the winter months	Winteriser fertiliser, Spreader, Water hose

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# ANNUAL GARDENING TASKS

BEGINNERS GUIDE TO GARDENING



# JANUARY

January is perfect for planning and preparing for the upcoming gardening season. In this month, gardeners should focus on creating a garden layout, ordering seeds and bulbs, preparing the soil for planting, pruning deciduous trees and shrubs, and sharpening garden tools. These tasks will help ensure a successful and bountiful growing season.

## Practical Steps:

- Plan and design your garden layout:
  - Start by assessing the size and shape of your garden area and how you would like to use it.
  - Research the types of plants suitable for the specific conditions of your garden, such as sun exposure and soil type.
  - Create a garden layout plan, including the placement of plants, pathways, and any garden features you wish to include.
  - Consider using companion planting and crop rotation to promote garden health and productivity.
- Order seeds and bulbs:
  - Decide which plants you want to grow and order seeds and bulbs accordingly.
  - Check the recommended planting times for each plant and whether they need to be started indoors before transplanting.
  - Ensure that the seeds and bulbs are appropriate for your growing conditions, such as sun exposure and soil type.
- Prepare soil for spring planting:
  - Test your soil using a soil test kit to determine its pH level and nutrient content.
  - Add compost, manure, or other organic matter to improve the soil's health and fertility.
  - Turn over the soil to a depth of 20-30cm to loosen and aerate it.
- Prune deciduous trees and shrubs:
  - Remove any dead, damaged, or diseased branches using clean, sharp pruning shears.
  - Thin out any crowded areas to promote better air circulation and sunlight penetration.
  - Shape trees and shrubs by pruning back to outward-facing buds.
  - Research specific pruning techniques for each type of plant to avoid damaging them.
- Sharpen garden tools:
  - Use a sharpening stone or file to sharpen the blades of your garden tools, such as pruning shears, shovels, hoes, and other implements.
  - Clean your tools using soap and water, then dry them thoroughly before storing.
  - Consider applying a light coat of oil to metal surfaces to prevent rust.
  - Replace any tools that are beyond repair.

## Ideal Plant to grow in January:

- Cool-season vegetables such as broccoli, cauliflower, and kale are ideal for planting in January.
- Spring-blooming bulbs such as daffodils and tulips should be planted in January for a colourful display in the spring.
- Deciduous trees and shrubs such as roses and fruit trees should be pruned in January to promote healthy growth.

By following these practical steps and focusing on these ideal plants, novice gardeners can set themselves up for a successful and fruitful gardening season. January is an important month for garden planning and preparation, so take the time to complete these tasks to ensure a bountiful harvest later in the year.



# FEBRUARY

Tasks that gardeners should consider undertaking in February:

- **Start seedlings indoors:** February is a great time to start thinking about your spring and summer gardens. Starting seeds indoors will give you a head start on the growing season. You will need seed trays or small pots, seed-starting soil, and the seeds of your choice. Choose a sunny window or use grow lights to provide enough light for the seedlings. Follow the instructions on the seed packets for planting depth and watering frequency. Once the seedlings have grown big enough, you can transplant them outside.
- **Prepare garden beds for planting:** February is also a good time to start preparing your garden beds. Remove any weeds or debris from the area, and add compost or other organic matter to the soil. This will help to improve soil fertility and structure. You can also turn over the soil to aerate it and make it easier for roots to grow. This will help the plants to establish themselves more quickly once you transplant them into the garden.
- **Plant bare-root fruit trees and shrubs:** If you plan on planting bare-root fruit trees or shrubs, February is a good time to do so. You will need to choose a location that provides enough sunlight for the plants to grow and ensure that the soil is well-drained. Dig a hole that is deep enough for the roots to spread out comfortably, and then fill the hole with soil. Water the plant thoroughly and add mulch around the base to help retain moisture.
- **Prune roses:** February is a good time to prune your roses. Pruning helps to promote healthy growth and improve the overall appearance of the plant. Start by removing any dead, diseased, or damaged branches. Then, cut back the remaining branches to about half their length. This will encourage the plant to produce new growth and bloom more abundantly. Make sure to use clean, sharp pruning shears to prevent the spread of disease.
- **Clean and sharpen garden tools:** Finally, it's important to clean and sharpen your garden tools in February. This will help to prolong their lifespan and ensure that they work properly when you need them. Use a wire brush or steel wool to remove any rust or debris from the blades, and then use a sharpening stone to sharpen the edges. You can also oil the blades to prevent rust from forming in the future.

Ideal plants to consider planting in February, depending on your location and climate, including lettuce, kale, spinach, peas, radishes, and carrots. These are all cool-season crops that will thrive in the early spring. You can also plant bulbs, such as daffodils, crocuses, and tulips, for a splash of colour in your garden.



# MARCH

For gardeners, there are a few important tasks to consider undertaking in March to prepare your garden for the upcoming spring season. Here are some practical steps you can follow:

**Start planting cool-season vegetables:** March is a great time to start planting cool-season vegetables like peas, lettuce, and spinach. These plants can tolerate cooler temperatures and will thrive in the spring season. Choose a sunny spot in your garden, and make sure the soil is well-draining and has enough organic matter. Sow the seeds according to the package instructions and water regularly.

**Ideal plants to grow in March include** spinach, lettuce, peas, carrots, beets, radishes, and broccoli.

**Plant spring bulbs:** March is the perfect time to plant spring bulbs like tulips and daffodils. Choose a spot in your garden that gets plenty of sunlight and has well-draining soil. Dig a hole about three times the height of the bulb and place the bulb pointy side up in the hole. Cover with soil and water thoroughly. **Ideal spring bulbs to plant in March include** tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, and crocuses.

**Fertilise trees and shrubs:** March is a good time to fertilise trees and shrubs to ensure they have enough nutrients to support new growth in the spring. Choose a slow-release fertiliser and follow the package instructions. Apply the fertiliser evenly around the drip line of the tree or shrub and water well.

**Divide and transplant perennials:** March is the perfect time to divide and transplant perennials. This is a great way to rejuvenate old or overgrown plants, and to create new plants for your garden. Choose a cool, cloudy day to divide the plants, and water them well after transplanting. **Ideal perennials to divide and transplant in March include** hostas, daylilies, iris, and peonies.

**Begin weeding and mulching:** March is a good time to start weeding and mulching your garden beds. Weeds can quickly take over your garden, so it's important to remove them as soon as possible. Mulching will help to suppress weeds, retain moisture in the soil, and regulate soil temperature. **Ideal mulching materials to use in March include** shredded leaves, straw, and compost.





# APRIL

Practical steps for gardeners to undertake in April.

**Plant warm-season vegetables like tomatoes, peppers, and beans:** April is the perfect time to start planting warm-season vegetables. Before planting, choose a sunny spot with well-drained soil. Start by preparing the soil by adding compost or aged manure. Then, follow the seed packet instructions and plant the seeds accordingly. Ensure to water the seeds regularly, but not too much to avoid waterlogging. Once the seedlings have grown to about 2-3 inches tall, you can transplant them to their permanent location. **Ideal plants for April:** Tomatoes, peppers, beans, cucumbers, eggplants, and squash.

**Plant annual flowers like petunias and marigolds:** April is also a great time to plant annual flowers. Choose a spot that receives plenty of sun and has well-drained soil. Make sure to prepare the soil by adding compost or aged manure. Plant the seeds according to the package instructions, and water them regularly. Once the seedlings have grown to a few inches tall, you can transplant them to their permanent location. **Ideal plants for April:** Petunias, marigolds, zinnias, cosmos, and impatiens.

**Prune flowering shrubs after they bloom:** If you have flowering shrubs that have already bloomed, April is a great time to prune them. Use clean and sharp pruning shears, and make sure to cut just above a healthy bud. This will help stimulate new growth and ensure that the shrub maintains its shape. **Ideal plants for April:** Azaleas, camellias, and forsythias.

**Continue weeding and mulching:** Weeding and mulching are important tasks to keep your garden healthy. Remove any weeds that are competing with your plants for nutrients and water. Apply a layer of mulch around your plants to help retain moisture and suppress weeds. Use a hoe to break up soil crusts and remove small weeds: Using a hoe is an efficient way to break up soil crusts and remove small weeds. Use a sharp hoe to slice through the soil, making sure not to damage your plants. This will help improve water and air circulation around your plants' roots.

Overall, April is a great time to start planting warm-season vegetables, annual flowers, and pruning flowering shrubs. Keep up with weeding and mulching, and use a hoe to break up soil crusts and remove small weeds. With these tips, you'll be on your way to a beautiful and healthy garden.



# MAY

In May, novice gardeners can take on several tasks to ensure a healthy and flourishing garden. Here's an overview, practical steps, and ideal plants to consider:

**Plant warm-season annuals** like zinnias and cosmos

- Choose a sunny spot in your garden and prepare the soil by adding compost or organic matter.
- Water the area thoroughly before planting.
- Dig a hole that is slightly larger than the root ball of your plant.
- Place the plant in the hole, backfill with soil, and lightly press the soil around the plant.
- Water the plant well and continue to water regularly to keep the soil moist.

**Ideal plants for May planting** include zinnias, cosmos, marigolds, and petunias.

**Transplant seedlings into the garden**

- Choose a cloudy or overcast day to transplant seedlings to avoid heat stress.
- Prepare the soil by adding compost or organic matter and watering thoroughly.
- Gently remove seedlings from their containers, being careful not to damage the roots.
- Dig a hole that is slightly larger than the root ball of the seedling and place the plant in the hole.
- Backfill with soil, lightly press the soil around the plant, and water well.

**Ideal plants for transplanting in May** include tomatoes, peppers, and eggplants.

**Prune fruit trees**

- Remove any dead, diseased, or damaged branches from the tree.
- Remove any suckers or water sprouts that are growing from the base of the tree.
- Thin out any branches that are crossing or rubbing against each other.
- Aim to create an open canopy that allows light and air to reach the fruit.

**Ideal fruit trees for pruning in May** include apples, pears, and cherries.

**Fertilise roses and other flowering plants**

- Choose a fertiliser that is specifically formulated for roses or flowering plants.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for application rates.
- Apply the fertiliser around the base of the plant, being careful not to get any on the foliage.
- Water the plant well after fertilising.

**Ideal flowering plants for fertilising in May** include roses, peonies, and hydrangeas.

**Water regularly, especially during dry spells**

- Water deeply and thoroughly, aiming to moisten the soil to a depth of 6 inches.
- Water early in the morning or late in the evening to reduce evaporation.
- Avoid getting water on the foliage of plants to prevent disease.
- Use a soaker hose or drip irrigation system to deliver water directly to the root zone.

**Ideal plants for regular watering in May** include newly planted annuals, seedlings, and vegetables.

By following these practical steps and choosing the ideal plants for May, gardeners can achieve a beautiful and healthy garden.



# JUNE

There are several tasks you can undertake in June to ensure a successful gardening season. Here's an overview of what you can do:

**Harvest Early-Season Crops:** June is a great time to harvest early-season crops like strawberries and lettuce. Check your garden for ripe produce and harvest them as needed. This will encourage the plants to produce more crops and prevent over-ripening.

**Deadhead Spent Flowers:** Deadheading is the process of removing spent flowers from the plant. This will encourage new growth and more blooms. Use a sharp pair of scissors or pruning shears to cut the flowers just above the first set of healthy leaves.

**Stake Tall Plants:** Tall plants like tomatoes and beans need support to grow upright. Use stakes or trellises to keep them from falling over. This will also help prevent damage from wind and rain.

**Thin Fruit Trees:** Fruit trees often produce more fruit than they can support. Thinning the fruit will promote better fruit production and prevent the tree from being weighed down. Use sharp pruning shears to remove excess fruit, leaving about 6 inches between each remaining fruit.

**Control Pests and Diseases:** Check your plants for pests and diseases regularly. If you notice any problems, take action immediately. Use organic methods like handpicking or natural insecticides to control pests. For diseases, remove infected plant parts and dispose of them properly.

## Here are some ideal plants for a gardener to grow in June:

Tomatoes

Cucumbers

Squash

Zucchini

Peppers

Herbs like basil, parsley, and mint

Flowers like marigolds and petunias

These plants are relatively easy to grow and don't require too much maintenance. Just make sure they have enough water and sunlight, and watch out for pests and diseases. With a little effort and care, you can enjoy a bountiful harvest and a beautiful garden in June.



# JULY

There are several important tasks to consider in order to maintain and improve your garden. Here are some practical steps and ideal plants to consider for each task:

**Harvest and Preserve Crops:** July is a great month for harvesting crops like peas and beans. When harvesting, it's important to pick the pods at the right time when they're tender and sweet. To preserve these crops, consider freezing, canning or dehydrating them. These methods will help you enjoy your fresh harvest all year round.

**Deadhead Flowers:** Deadheading is the process of removing spent blooms from plants to promote continuous blooming. This helps your plants to produce more flowers and maintain their attractive appearance. For novice gardeners, focus on deadheading plants that produce lots of blooms such as petunias, marigolds, and zinnias.

**Water Deeply:** Watering deeply is essential during hot weather to ensure that plants don't dry out. This is especially important for newly planted flowers, trees and shrubs. Focus on watering the roots, not the foliage. Water early in the morning or late in the evening to prevent evaporation.

**Prune Hedges and Shrubs:** July is a great time to prune hedges and shrubs. This is especially important for fast-growing plants that need regular maintenance. Novice gardeners should focus on removing any dead, diseased or damaged branches. For ideal plants to prune, consider boxwoods, hollies, and junipers.

**Mulch:** Mulching is the process of covering the soil around plants to conserve moisture and control weeds. This helps to keep the soil cool during hot weather and also helps to regulate soil temperature during cooler weather. Novice gardeners should focus on using organic mulch such as leaves, straw or bark. Ideal plants for mulching include tomatoes, peppers and strawberries.

By following these practical steps and focusing on ideal plants, novice gardeners can ensure a successful and fruitful garden in July.

August is a busy time for gardeners as they prepare for the transition from summer to fall. Here's an overview of the tasks you mentioned, along with practical steps and ideal plants to help novice gardeners get started:

## **Harvest crops like tomatoes and peppers:**

**Practical steps:** When harvesting tomatoes and peppers, it's important to pick them when they are ripe, but not overripe. You can tell they are ready when they are firm and have reached their full colour. Use a sharp pair of scissors or garden shears to cut the stem, leaving a small amount attached to the fruit. Store them in a cool, dry place until ready to use.





# AUGUST

**Ideal plants:** Some ideal plants for August harvest include beefsteak tomatoes, cherry tomatoes, bell peppers, and hot peppers.

**Deadhead flowers to promote continued blooming:**

**Practical steps:** Deadheading is the process of removing spent flowers from plants to encourage new growth and prolong blooming. To do this, simply pinch off the faded flowers with your fingers or use scissors or pruning shears to snip them off at the base of the stem. Be sure to dispose of the dead flowers in the compost pile or trash. **Ideal plants:** Some ideal plants for deadheading in August include marigolds, zinnias, petunias, and snapdragons.

**Begin planting fall crops like spinach and kale:**

**Practical steps:** Planting fall crops in August is a great way to extend your growing season and enjoy fresh produce well into the fall. To get started, choose a sunny spot in your garden and prepare the soil by removing any weeds and adding compost or other organic matter. Sow the seeds according to the package directions and water them regularly to keep the soil moist. **Ideal plants:** Some ideal plants for planting in August include spinach, kale, lettuce, carrots, and radishes.

**Divide and transplant iris and daylilies:**

**Practical steps:** Dividing and transplanting iris and daylilies is important for maintaining healthy plants and encouraging new growth. To do this, dig up the entire clump of plants and separate them into smaller sections, making sure each section has a healthy root system. Replant the sections in a new location or container, making sure the soil is well-drained and the plants receive adequate sunlight and water. **Ideal plants:** Some ideal plants for dividing and transplanting in August include iris, daylilies, hostas, and ornamental grasses.

**Start preparing for Autumn clean-up:**

**Practical steps:** As summer comes to an end, it's important to start preparing your garden for the fall and winter months. This includes removing any dead or diseased plants, raking leaves and debris, and mulching around trees and shrubs. You may also want to consider planting cover crops or adding compost to the soil to help replenish nutrients and improve soil health.

**Ideal plants:** There are no specific plants to consider for autumn clean-up, but it's important to clean up and prepare your garden for the next growing season.



# SEPTEMBER

September is a crucial month to start preparing your garden for the upcoming winter season. Here are some practical steps that you can take to maintain a healthy garden:

**Harvest and preserve crops like apples and pears:** As the autumn season approaches, it's time to harvest crops like apples and pears. Make sure to pick them before they fall off the trees. Store them in a cool, dry place, and consume them before they spoil. You can also preserve them by canning or freezing them for later use.

**Plant fall-blooming bulbs like crocus and colchicum:** Fall-blooming bulbs like crocus and colchicum add a pop of colour to your garden. Choose a well-draining location and plant them at a depth of 2-3 inches. Water them regularly to ensure healthy growth.

**Begin preparing for winter by mulching and cleaning up:** Mulching helps to insulate the soil and protect the roots of your plants from the harsh winter weather. Spread a layer of organic mulch like leaves or straw around the base of your plants. Additionally, clean up your garden by removing any debris or dead plant material.

**Store garden tools for winter:** Garden tools like shovels and rakes should be stored properly to prevent rust and damage during the winter months. Clean them thoroughly, oil them if necessary, and store them in a dry place.

**Plant cover crops in empty garden beds:** Cover crops like clover or rye grass help to improve soil health by fixing nitrogen and preventing erosion. Plant them in empty garden beds to prepare the soil for spring planting.

**Ideal plants for September:** Apart from fall-blooming bulbs, you can also plant cool-season vegetables like broccoli, spinach, and lettuce. These crops thrive in cooler temperatures and can be harvested in late fall or early winter.

Overall, by following these simple steps and planting the right crops, you can ensure that your garden remains healthy throughout the winter season.





# OCTOBER

An overview and practical steps for each of these gardening tasks that novice gardeners should consider undertaking in October:

**Harvest remaining vegetables and fruits:** Before the first frost hits, it's important to harvest any remaining vegetables and fruits from your garden. This includes tomatoes, peppers, squash, and any other crops that may still be growing. To harvest, gently pull the produce off the plant, being careful not to damage the stems or leaves. If you have excess produce, consider donating it to a local food bank or sharing with friends and neighbors.

**Clean up garden beds and remove dead plants:** Once you've harvested your crops, it's time to clean up your garden beds and remove any dead or diseased plants. Use a garden fork or shovel to gently remove the plants from the soil, taking care not to disturb any beneficial microbes or insects living in the soil. If you have a compost bin, add the plant debris to the bin. If not, you can create a pile in a corner of your yard for the debris to break down over time.

**Plant spring-blooming bulbs like tulips and daffodils:** October is the perfect time to plant spring-blooming bulbs like tulips and daffodils. Choose a sunny spot in your garden with well-draining soil. Dig a hole that's about twice the depth of the bulb and place the bulb in the hole, pointed end up. Cover with soil and water well. Repeat with as many bulbs as you'd like, spacing them about 6-8 inches apart.

**Rake leaves and compost garden debris:** As the leaves begin to fall, it's important to rake them up and remove them from your lawn and garden beds. Leaves can be added to your compost bin or piled in a corner of your yard to decompose. Be sure to mix the leaves with other organic material like grass clippings or vegetable scraps to create a balanced compost pile.

**Winterize garden equipment:** Before the cold weather sets in, it's important to winterize your garden equipment to ensure it will be in good condition when you need it again in the spring. This includes draining hoses and storing them indoors, cleaning and sharpening your pruning shears, and covering your garden beds with a layer of mulch to protect them from the cold.

## Ideal plants for October:

**Ornamental grasses:** These hardy plants add texture and interest to your garden throughout the winter months.

**Pansies:** These colourful flowers can bloom well into the fall and even survive light frosts.

**Mums:** These hardy perennials bloom in a variety of colours and can add a burst of colour to your garden beds throughout the fall.





# NOVEMBER

November is a crucial month to prepare your garden for winter and plan for the next growing season. Here are some practical steps and ideal plants that you should consider undertaking in November:

## **Finish cleaning up garden beds and remove dead plants:**

Remove all the dead plants from your garden beds and discard them properly.  
Rake up the fallen leaves and debris from the ground and dispose of them.  
Cut back any overgrown shrubs or trees.

## **Spread compost over garden beds:**

Spread a layer of compost over your garden beds to enrich the soil for next year's plants.  
You can either make your own compost or purchase it online.

## **Protect plants from frost and freeze damage:**

Cover the sensitive plants with frost cloth or burlap to protect them from freezing temperatures.  
Water the plants deeply before a freeze, as moist soil retains heat better than dry soil.

## **Plan for next year's garden:**

Take some time to plan your garden for next year. Decide what plants you want to grow, and where to plant them.  
Order seeds and bulbs now so you can have them on hand when the time comes to plant.

## **Store garden tools for winter:**

Clean and dry all your garden tools before storing them for the winter.  
Store them in a dry and secure place where they won't be damaged by the elements.

## **Ideal Plants for November:**

Tulips, daffodils, and other spring-blooming bulbs can be planted in November for a beautiful spring display.

Garlic can also be planted in November, as it needs a cold period to produce bulbs.

Perennials like asters, mums, and sedums are great fall bloomers and can be planted in November as well.

In conclusion, taking these practical steps in November can help ensure that your garden stays healthy and vibrant, while also providing you with a beautiful and productive garden next year.



# DECEMBER

Practical steps, and ideal plants for tasks that a gardener should consider undertaking in December:

## **Order seeds and bulbs for next year's garden:**

Decide what plants you want to grow in your garden next year.

Research and order seeds and bulbs from reputable sources online or in gardening catalogues.

Make sure to check the recommended planting dates for each type of seed or bulb.

Store seeds and bulbs in a cool, dry place until planting time.

## **Ideal plants to consider:**

Early spring bloomers like crocuses, snowdrops, and tulips.

Cool-season vegetables like broccoli, cabbage, and lettuce.

## **Make a list of garden tasks for next year:**

Take note of any garden successes or failures from the past year.

Determine what areas of your garden need improvement.

Research gardening techniques and tools that you want to try.

Create a list of tasks for each month of the year to keep your garden healthy and thriving.

## **Attend gardening workshops or classes:**

Look for gardening workshops or classes in your local area or online.

Choose ones that focus on topics you're interested in or areas where you want to improve your gardening skills.

Take notes and ask questions to gain valuable knowledge and insight.

## **Plan and design any changes to your garden layout:**

Consider changes to the layout of your garden to improve its functionality or aesthetics.

Sketch out a new garden design on paper or use an online garden planner.

Determine what materials or supplies you'll need for the new layout.

## **Ideal plants to consider:**

Plants that attract pollinators like bees and butterflies, such as lavender and salvia.

Native plants that thrive in your region.

## **Relax and enjoy the holiday season:**

Take a break from gardening and enjoy the holiday season.

Reflect on your gardening accomplishments from the past year.

Spend time with family and friends, and enjoy the beauty of nature in winter.





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