

PLAN YOUR GARDEN!

There are no green thumbs. Trial and error makes a great gardener! Small steps are all it takes to get started.

1. Start small

Gardens can be as small as a container on your porch or a 4ft. by 4ft. raised bed in your yard. If things are going well, you can always make your garden bigger.

2. Grow what you like to eat

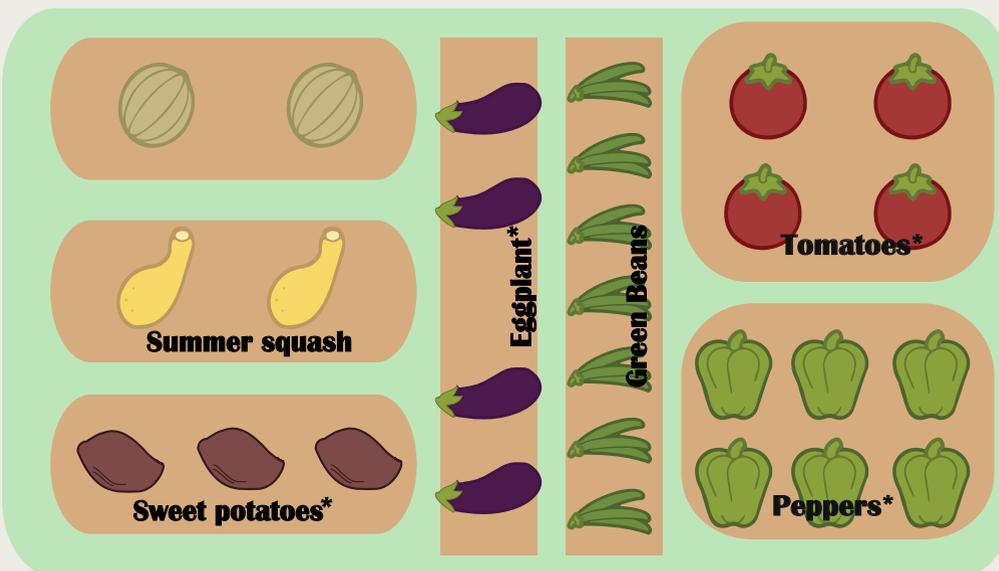
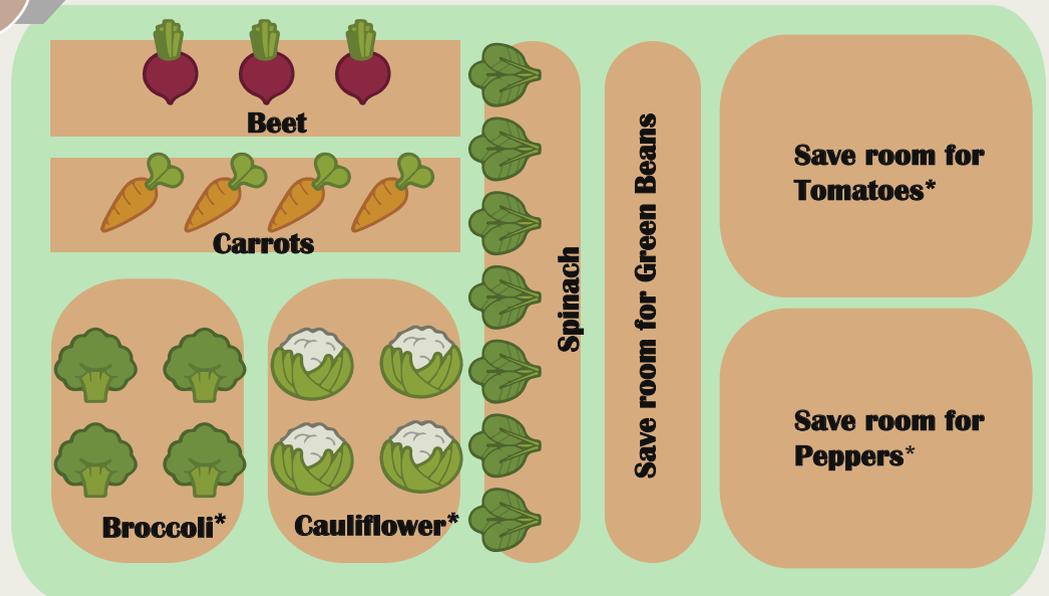
Choose the seeds and plants you and your family enjoy eating.

3. Provide enough space for plants

Plants need room to grow. Refer to the *Garden Planting Guide* for spacing ideas.

Cool Season vegetables

Cool season vegetables are planted in late March and early April, and can handle frost and light freezing temperatures. These vegetables include beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, collards, kale, lettuce, onions, potatoes, radish, spinach, swiss chard, and turnips. Many can be planted in late July or early August for a fall garden.



Warm Season vegetables

Warm season vegetables are planted in May after all danger of frost has passed. They include cantaloupe, corn, cucumber, eggplant, okra, peppers, squash, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, and watermelon.

*Use transplants

4. Stay seasonal

No matter what the weatherperson says, plants really do grow best according to season. Check the *Garden Planting Guide* for the best planting dates for a variety of vegetables.

5. Map it out

When you know what you want to plant, draw it out. Choose what you will plant where and at what time. Having a plan that's right for you and your garden can go a long way to gardening success.