

GROW IT

GREEN BEANS

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 Get It

Green beans are a popular, warm-season vegetable that can be grown as a bush crop or a pole crop. For small spaces or containers, bush beans that are compact are the best option because pole beans will need more support and management. Mascotte is a good bush bean cultivar for small space or container gardening.

- 🔥 Purchase high-quality seed that was packaged for the current year from a reputable supplier.
- 🔥 Green beans grow best when directly seeded into well-prepared garden soil, a raised bed or container.


 Plant It

- * Beans are warm-season crops that are damaged or killed by frost, so it is best to plant them after the danger of frost is passed (mid-April in West Tennessee and late April in East Tennessee).
- * Some shorter season bush beans can also be a later summer/early fall crop if sown in late July or early August.
- * Bush green beans grow more compactly and produce beans faster. They will not require support, but pole beans vine, and will require a stake, twine or trellis.
- * Green beans can be planted in gardens or raised beds, and seeds are placed 2-4 inches apart and covered with about an inch of soil. If you plant multiple rows, they should be 2-3 feet apart.
- * If space is limited, green beans can be planted in clay, wood, plastic or ceramic containers that are 12 to 18 inches deep and can hold a volume of 2-5 gallons of growing mix. Make sure the containers have drains.



- ★ Adding granular fertilizer at planting will provide nutrients for the growing plant. A 4-foot-by-8-foot raised bed could be fertilized with ½ to 1 cup of 10-10-10 fertilizer. Evenly mix the fertilizer into the top 2 inches of soil or growing mix.
- ★ Keep the green bean plants well-watered and don't let the soil or media dry out completely between watering. Mulching will help retain moisture.
- ★ The roots of green beans grow near the soil surface. When hoeing and pulling weeds, do not dig too deep, or the plant's roots will be damaged.



- ◆ Bush green beans will be ready for harvest 50 to 60 days after sowing, while pole green beans will be ready for harvest 60 to 80 days after harvest.
- ◆ Green beans are ready to be picked when they begin to firm up, are straight and slender, and can be snapped off the plant. Pull them carefully to avoid damaging the plant.
- ◆ Over-mature beans are tough, stringy and bulging with bean seeds.
- ◆ Harvesting green beans is an ongoing task, so the plants need to be checked and beans picked two to four times per week to harvest the best quality beans and keep the plants producing well.



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