

Annual Plant Hardiness

A list of annuals and vegetable plants and their relative hardiness or tenderness



For maximum frost hardiness, acclimate or "harden off" plants by gradually exposing them to sun, wind, and cold for 5-7 days before planting in the ground. Freezing temperatures can do significant damage to newly-planted flowers and vegetable plants.

The following dates are approximate in the Denver area. Safe dates for planting vary from year to year, and also depend on your particular area and planting location. Be sure to cover plants on cold nights to provide protection and increase chance of survival.

Very Hardy

Plant after April 1st

Annual Flowers

Alyssum
Dianthus
Dracaena

Dusty Miller
Lamium
Pansy

Snapdragon
Viola

Vegetable Plants

Asparagus
Carrots
Chives
Fennel
Garlic

Onions
Parsley
Peas
Potato
Radish

Rhubarb (bare root)
Shallots
Spinach
Strawberries

Hardy

Plant after April 15th

Annual Flowers

Calendula
Carnation

Flowering Kale
Lamium

Lobelia
Stocks

Vinca Vine

Vegetable Plants

Broccoli
Brussels Sprouts
Cabbage

Cauliflower
Kohlrabi
Lettuce

Perennial herbs
Raddichio

Somewhat Hardy

Plant after May 5th

Annual Flowers

Alstromeria
Anagallis
Angel's Trumpet
Arctosis
Asparagus Fern
Aster
Bacopa
Brachycome

California Poppy
Cleome
Cosmos
Diascia
Euphorbia
Gazania
Gerbera
Gomphrena

Lotus Vine
Mimulus
Morning Glory
New Guinea Impatiens
Nicotiana
Petunia
Pennisetum
Phlox

Rudbeckia
Salvia
Strawflowers
Sweet Peas
Tithonia
Verbena

Vegetable Plants

Artichoke
Beans

Celery
Leeks

Rhubarb

Tender

Plant after May 20th

Annual Flowers

Abutilon
Ageratum
Alternanthera
Amaranthus
Balsam
Begonia
Browallia
Caladium
Calla Lily
Canna

Celosia
Chrysanthemum
Cuphea
Coleus
Dahlberg Daisy
Dahlia
Elephant Ears
Fuchsia
Geranium
Heliotrope

Impatiens
Lantana
Lisianthus
Marguerite Daisy
Marigolds
Nasturtium
Nemesia
Nierembergia
Periwinkle
Pentas

Polka Dot Plant
Polygonum
Portulaca
Ruby Grass
Salpiglossis
Sanvitalia
Statice
Thunbergia
Torenia
Zinnia

Vegetable Plants

Annual herbs
Cantaloupe
Corn
Cucumber

Eggplant
Okra
Peppers
Pumpkin

Squash
Sweet Potato
Tomatillo
Tomato

Watermelon