

Year-Round Garden and Planning Tasks

(Adapted with permission from the UC Davis Children's Garden Program)

This guide is meant to provide general suggestions for a selection of plantings and garden tasks. Planting and garden tasks vary greatly based on climatic zones. Refer to your county's Cooperative Extension office, regional planting guides, or nursery centers for specific suggestions for your area.

	FALL SEPT, OCT, NOV	WINTER DEC, JAN, FEB	SPRING MAR, APR, MAY	SUMMER JUNE, JULY, AUG
Garden tasks through the seasons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inventory tools • Weed garden paths and open areas; cover these in deep layers of wood chips or other path material • Mulch cold-sensitive perennials • Save seeds of summer flowers or warm-season crops • Collect plant material and make compost piles • Sow cover crops • Plant perennial flowers and shrubs • In cold areas, protect plants from frost 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prune trees and shrubs • Cut back dead flower stalks on perennial herbs and ornamentals • Add compost and mulch to the base of fruit trees and perennials • Cover frost-sensitive plants • Order seeds and plan your spring garden • Stay ahead of winter weeds • Maintain worm compost bins • Put out bird feeders • Make or check plant labels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flush and repair irrigation systems • Treat any insect pest problems that arise • Remove dead flowers to keep new blossoms coming • Apply mulch to perennials that need it for protection against summer heat • Mulch annuals you want to maintain through summer • Flip or make compost • Protect seedlings from birds with netting or row covers • Protect seedlings from late frost with row covers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up watering schedule • Water and weed • Remove dead flowers to keep new blossoms coming • Save seeds • Make a plan for fall perennial plantings of herbs, native plants, habitat gardens, etc. • Enjoy the harvest
Planting options	<p>Annuals: beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, chard, fava beans, garlic, kale, lettuce, onions, peas, potatoes, radishes, spinach, wheat, annual flowers (bachelor buttons, calendula, sweet peas, wildflower seed), spring-flowering bulbs (daffodils, lilies, tulips, etc.)</p> <p>Perennials: herbs, native plants, ornamentals</p>	<p>Annuals (in mild winter areas): broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, chard, kale, lettuce, peas, spinach</p> <p>Perennials (in mild winter areas): bare-root fruit trees and cane fruits such as blackberries and raspberries</p>	<p>Annuals: annual flowers, beans, beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, chard, cucumbers, eggplant, onions, peppers, potatoes, summer squash, tomatoes</p> <p>Perennials: habitat plants, herbs, native plants, ornamentals; in harsh winter areas plant bare-root trees and fruiting vines</p>	<p>Annuals: annual flowers, basil, beans, corn (ornamental, pop, sweet), cucumbers, dill, eggplant, gourds, melons, peppers, pumpkins, summer squash, tomatoes, winter squash</p>
Harvest options	<p>From previous seasons: basil, corn (ornamental, pop, sweet), dry beans, eggplant, gourds, late potatoes, melons, okra, peppers, pumpkins, soy beans, summer squash, sunflower seeds, sunflowers, tomatoes, winter squash</p> <p>From this season: baby beets, baby carrots, broccoli, cauliflower, chard, lettuce, peas, potatoes, radishes, spinach</p> <p>Perennials: apples, grapes, kiwis, pears, persimmons, pomegranates</p>	<p>From previous seasons: beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, chard, kale, lettuce, peas, potatoes, radishes, spinach</p> <p>Perennials (in mild winter areas): citrus</p>	<p>From previous seasons: broccoli, chard, fava beans, garlic, kale, lettuce, onions, peas, spinach, wheat</p> <p>From this season: carrots, chard, kale, lettuce, potatoes, spinach</p> <p>Perennials: artichokes, asparagus, berries, cherries</p>	<p>From previous seasons: annual flowers, basil, beans, beets, carrots, eggplant, peppers, potatoes, summer squash, sweet corn, tomatoes</p> <p>From this season: basil, tomatoes</p> <p>Perennials: various fruiting trees and vines</p>