PLANT YOUR GARDEN ON PAPER FIRST

Your plan should include:
1. Arrangement of Crops, Length of Rows
2. Spacing between rows and between plants in rows
3. Varieties to be planted
4. Planting dates

HELPFUL HINTS

These vegetables produce a lot in a small space:
- Tomatoes, turnips, radish, onion (sets), lettuce, greens, beans (pole or snap), bush squash

These vegetables need a very large space to produce a lot:
- Peas, melon, potato, corn, vine squash

Your vegetables need plenty of sunshine.
Tomatoes, peppers, squash and other "fruit" crops must have full sun. Root crops like beets and carrots can be grown in light shade. Leafy vegetables like lettuce and collards will grow in medium shade.

KEYS TO SUCCESS

Start early
Buy recommended varieties
Use fertilizer

FUN, FOOD, BEAUTY.

Think of a lush green patch of lettuce and COLLARDS, a lacy row of carrots or plump red tomatoes and peppers waiting to be picked. No one is likely to eat better than the home gardener who has a well-planned and cared-for garden. A garden also provides wholesome recreation for the city, suburban or country family. An evening in the garden can be relaxing after a long day at work. Your "green patch" will bring you fun, food and beauty.

FOR A GOOD GARDEN

- Choose vegetables your family likes
- Buy varieties recommended for Michigan. (Contact your county extension service office)
- Plant at the right time
- Use fertilizer

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TP:1.75-50M-UP
START EARLY BUYING SEED. EXPERIENCED GARDENERS BUY MOST OF THEIR SEED THROUGH SEED CATALOGUES. THEY OFFER MORE VARIETIES AND TELL YOU WHICH VARIETIES ARE BEST FOR CANNING, FREEZING OR EATING RAW.

FROST (TEMPERATURES OF 32°F) WILL NOT INJURE THESE CROPS. PLANT SEEDS OR TRANSPLANTS OUTSIDE IN APRIL.

COOL SEASON CROPS
- cabbage
- radish
- lettuce
- beets
- cauliflower
- onions
- peas
- broccoli

We eat the roots, stems, leaves or very young flowers of most COOL SEASON CROPS

WARM SEASON CROPS
- tomatoes
- peppers
- squash
- cucumbers
- corn
- pumpkins

We eat the fruit of most WARM SEASON CROPS

WHERE TO PUT THE GARDEN

LOCATE THE GARDEN NEAR YOUR HOME SO YOU CAN WORK IN IT WHEN YOU HAVE A FEW MINUTES. IT IS EXCITING WHEN YOU ARE CLOSE ENOUGH TO WATCH IT GROW.

😊 PLANT TALL CROPS ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE GARDEN SO THEY WON'T SHADE THE SHORTER VEGETABLES.

SUNNY, LEVEL LAND IS BEST. 😊 BUT GENTLE SLOPES WILL DO. SOUTH FACING SLOPES ARE THE SUNNIEST. 😊

DON'T WORRY IF YOU DON'T HAVE MUCH SPACE. AN AREA AS SMALL AS A COMPACT CAR CAN BE MORE FUN AND FRUITFUL THAN A LARGE GARDEN SEVERAL BLOCKS OR MILES AWAY. PICK A SUNNY SPOT. IF YOU DON'T HAVE A YARD, USE YOUR IMAGINATION... TRY LETTUCE AND GREENS IN A FLOWER BOX OR TOMATOES AND PEPPERS IN POTS ON THE PORCH.

DON'T PLANT ON STEEP BANKS. RAIN WILL WASH AWAY THE SOIL AND VEGETABLES. 😊

NORTH FACING SLOPES ARE COLD AND SHADED. VEGETABLES WILL NOT GROW WELL HERE. 😊

LOW AREAS ARE WET AND THE SOIL STAYS COLD.

LOCATE NEAR A GOOD SUPPLY OF WATER 😊

VEGETABLES LOVE THE SUN

JANUARY-FEBRUARY
- Order seed catalogues

FEBRUARY-MARCH
- Order seeds
- Prepare the soil
  - As soon as it is dry enough.

MARCH-APRIL
- Plant Cool Season Crops
  - Check local planting dates

APRIL
- Plant Cool Season Crops

MAY
- Plant Warm Season Crops
  - After danger of frost.