

GARLIC AT-A-GLANCE

ABOUT

- Garlic is made up of multiple cloves per bulb
- Each clove grows one new bulb
- Buy garlic seed stock; Do not use grocery store garlic to plant



STATS

- Two Main Varieties: Hardneck and Softneck
- Hardneck has a thick stem through middle of bulb, is better grown in colder climates, produces garlic scapes, and has a bolder flavor
- Softneck has multiple rows of smaller cloves, a longer storage life, and a milder flavor

REQUIREMENTS

- Growing zone depends on variety
- Hardneck best for Midwest and Northern locations
- Hardneck needs 8 weeks below 40° F to produce large bulbs
- Softneck best for locations with milder winters
- Choose location with full sun
- Prefers a soil pH of 6.4-6.8
- Soil should be fertile and loose

PLANTING CLOVES

- Can plant softneck in fall or spring
- Plant hardneck garlic 4-6 weeks before first expected frost in fall
- Soak cloves overnight before planting
- Space each clove 4" apart with 4-6" between rows
- Dig a trench 3-4" deep; add plenty of compost
- Place cloves with pointy end up
- Backfill but don't press soil firmly
- Add a 1" covering lightweight mulch & water lightly every 3-4 days until germination occurs
- Germination takes 10-14 days

FALL MAINTENANCE

- Normal rainfall should be suffice
- Once sprouted in fall, cover with several more inches of mulch
- Garlic goes dormant in winter

SPRING & SUMMER CARE

- Add more mulch if needed in spring to suppress weeds
- Needs ~1" water every week
- Harvest scapes in early summer once they start to curl
- Garlic is ready to harvest in June/ July when 2/3 of tips of leaves brown or scapes straighten out
- When soil is dry, dig up bulbs
- Let cure few weeks in dry, dark location with good air movement
- Store garlic in cool, dry, and dark location



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keeping the fun in gardening by keeping it simple!