Cheatography

Gardening and Foraging (UK) Cheat Sheet

by Dave Child (DaveChild) via cheatography.com/1/cs/35/

About This Cheat Sheet

This cheat sheet is based on my own (small) garden and greenh-ouse, in the south of the UK. Dates for other places will be different.

Also, I'm inexperienced with gardening, so don't go taking any of this as gospel. YMMV.

Suggestions and tips very welcome!

How to Grow Cucumbers

Sow in **February**, harvest from **May** to **October**

Plant seed edgeways in 1cm deep compost.

Remove any male flowers (female flowers will have a miniature cucumber behind the flower).

Train main shoots onto 1.8m canes until they reach top of support, then pinch out growing point.

Feed your cucumber plants with a high potash feed every two weeks once the fruits begin to develop.

Once fruit begins to develop, pinch out end of each side shoot, leaving two leaves after each fruit.

Harvest early in the morning and before fruits produce seeds.

How to Grow Garlic

Aim to plant in **October**. Buy bulb(s) in **September**.

Turn over soil, remove weeds, add compost.

Make furrows about 3 inches deep and six inches apart.

Plant cloves about 4 inches deep and six inches apart, pointy side up.

Water in, then add some mulch, leaf compost or straw over the bed.

Shoots will appear in spring.

Early May, "scapes" will sprout - pull off (and eat).

Mid-to-late Jun, plant will start turning brown. Stop watering.

Once plant is brown, except for top 5 or 6 leaves, dig up bulbs.

Cure with leaves on out of direct sunlight.

From: http://www.stlmag.com/Blogs/Diggin-the-Dirt/October-2011/-Garlic-I-Heart-You/

How to Grow Ginger

Plant and harvest in **March/April**

Soak ginger overnight

Plant in rich, well-draining soil

Likes a sheltered spot, filtered sunlight, warm weather and humidity

Harvest ginger any time after leaves have died down

Freeze, or cut into chunks and store in brandy

How to Grow Runner Beans

Sow seeds end of **April**, plant in **May**, harvest from **July** to **October**

Sow seed indoors, 4cm deep in a 7.5cm pot filled with multi-purpose compost.

Water, place on a sunny windowsill to germinate.

Seedlings will be ready to plant after ~3 weeks.

Before planting, put in a cold frame or a cool porch for a few days to acclimatise.

Beans will need support to climb - 8 foot bamboo poles are ideal.

Water heavily, twice a week in dry weather.

Harvest regularly - the more you pick, the more they produce!

How to Grow Strawberries

Plant in **Spring** or **Autumn**

Ideal for hanging baskets. Like rich, sandy soil and lots of heat and light.

Plant with crown above soil.

Feed with tomato feed every 10 days.

Use straw to keep fruit from contact with soil/compost.

Harvest fruits as soon as ripe.

Strawberry plants should be replaced after three years.

Remove runners until after plant has cropped.

If growing runners, allow to get to 4 leaves then cut off and replant.

Don't let new runner plants flower in same year as planting.

Three types of strawberry:
- Alpines produce small sweet berries from July-September.
- Summer-fruiting produce larger fruits in early and mid-summer.
- Perpetual-fruiting produce fruit early summer to early autumn.



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How to Grow Tomatoes

Sow seeds in **March/April**. Transfer seedlings in **April/May**.

Grow with **basil** to deter aphids and **marigolds** to deter whitefly.

Planting

Sprinkle seeds over compost and cover with 1.5mm compost.

Transfer to pots when large enough to handle, without touching stem

Stake plants when ~18 inches tall (don't let ties cut into stems)

Pruning, Watering and Feeding

Remove sideshoots (don't leave a stump)

Lower leaves which show any signs of yellowing should also be removed

Remove leaves below first flower cluster

Remove growing tip when reaches top of support

Remove any more than 5-7 trusses

Water at same time of day every when needed

Feed regularly with high-potash plant food

Foraging Links

Identifying Berries	http://bit.ly/R6iOxd

Foraging Tips

Don't mix pickings from different plants in same container where possible and take a photo of the source, to help confirm identity of plant if required.



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To Do: January

Clean tools, greenhouse, patio ... :(

To Do: February

Plant	Harvest	Forage
Cucumber		Warmth

To Do: March

Plant	Harvest	Forage
Rocket	Ginger	
Spinach		
Ginger		
Tomatoes		
Potatoes		

To Do: April

Plant	Harvest	Forage
Strawberries		Wild Garlic

To Do: May

Plant	Harvest	Forage
Strawberries	Cucumber	Pignuts

To Do: June

Plant	Harvest	Forage
Strawberries	Cucumber	Pignuts
		Good King Henry
		Fat Hen
		Elderflower

To Do: July

Plant	Harvest	Forage
	Cucumber	Good King Henry
	Runner Beans	Fat Hen
	Garlic	

To Do: August

Plant	Harvest	Forage
Christmas New Potatoes	Cucumber	Blackberries
	Runner Beans	Bilberries
		Good King Henry
		Fat Hen
		Damsons

To Do: September

Plant	Harvest	Forage
	Cucumber	Elderberries
	Runner Beans	Blackberries
Buy Garlic Bulbs		Crab Apples

To Do: October

Plant	Harvest	Forage
Garlic	Runner Beans	Sloes
		Crab Apples

To Do: November

Plant	Harvest	Forage
		Sloes
		Crab Apples
		Rosehips

To Do: December

Plant	Harvest	Forage

Potato Planting and Harvesting

Crop	Plant From	Plant to	Harvest After
First early potatoes	End Feb	Late May	10 weeks
Second early potatoes	March	Late May	13 weeks
Early maincrop potatoes	March	Late May	15 weeks
Maincrop potatoes	March	Mid May	20 weeks
Second cropping potatoes	Early August	End August	11 weeks



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