



BC SEASONAL PLANTING CALENDAR

Simple month-by-month timing for balcony containers

Welcome to *The Blossoming Garden's* guide to seasonal planting in British Columbia! This calendar is designed to help you plan your balcony container garden for year-round beauty and bounty. We'll walk you through the best times to plant various flowers, vegetables, and herbs, ensuring a thriving garden even in limited spaces.

Spring (March - May)

- **March:**

- Start seeds indoors: tomatoes, peppers, eggplant.
- Direct sow: spinach, lettuce, radishes.

- **April:**

- Transplant seedlings: kale, broccoli, cauliflower.
- Plant: peas, carrots, beets.

- **May:**

- Plant summer flowers: petunias, marigolds, pansies.
- Harden off tender plants for transplant after frost.

Spring is a time of renewal, and your balcony garden can burst into life with the right planning! Begin by starting seeds indoors to get a head start on the growing season. Hardy vegetables like spinach and lettuce can be sown directly into containers. As the weather warms, transplant seedlings of cool-season crops and plant peas, carrots, and beets. Don't forget to add color with cheerful spring flowers. Remember to gradually expose tender plants to outdoor conditions before transplanting them to avoid shock.

Summer (June - August)

- **June:**
 - Transplant tomatoes, peppers, eggplant.
 - Plant herbs: basil, rosemary, thyme.
- **July:**
 - Succession plant: beans, cucumbers, zucchini.
 - Deadhead flowers to encourage more blooms.
- **August:**
 - Harvest vegetables regularly.
 - Prepare for fall planting.

Summer is the peak growing season, bringing warmth and abundance to your balcony garden. Transplant the seedlings you started indoors, such as tomatoes, peppers, and eggplants. Plant your favorite herbs to add flavor to your summer meals. For a continuous harvest, practice succession planting by sowing seeds of beans, cucumbers, and zucchini every few weeks. Remember to deadhead flowers to encourage more blooms and harvest vegetables regularly. Start planning for your fall garden in August.

Fall (September - November)

- **September:**
 - Plant cool-season crops: kale, spinach, lettuce.
 - Plant spring-flowering bulbs: tulips, daffodils.
- **October:**
 - Protect tender plants from frost.
 - Harvest remaining vegetables.
- **November:**
 - Clean up garden beds.
 - Plant garlic for next year's harvest.

Fall brings cooler temperatures and a chance to extend your growing season with cool-season crops. Plant kale, spinach, and lettuce for a late-season harvest. Spring-flowering bulbs planted in the fall will provide a beautiful display next spring. As the weather cools, protect tender plants from frost and harvest any remaining vegetables. Clean up your garden beds in preparation for winter and plant garlic for a delicious harvest next year.

Winter (December - February)

- **December - February:**
 - Protect plants from winter weather.
 - Plan for next year's garden.
 - Clean and organize gardening tools.

Winter is a time for rest and planning. Protect your plants from harsh winter weather by moving containers to a sheltered location or covering them with blankets. Use this time to plan your garden for the next year, browsing seed catalogs and dreaming up new designs. Clean and organize your gardening tools so you'll be ready to go when spring arrives.

Summary

This BC Seasonal Planting Calendar provides a simple month-by-month guide for planning your balcony container garden. By following these guidelines, you can enjoy a thriving garden year-round, regardless of the season. Happy gardening from The Blossoming Garden!