

# Rhubarb

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Rhubarb are most commonly grown from sets. Sets are about 4 inches in diameter and should have at least one bud. Rhubarb will grow 24" tall by 6 feet wide with leaves 18 inches wide.

When to plant: They only grow well in cooler temperatures so they should be planted in the fall or spring.

Space: Rhubarb need a well prepared site. Begin by digging a 2 foot deep hole and filling it half way with compost . Then fill with good topsoil to 1 inch below the soil level. The buds should be just above the surface level. Plants should be set 3 feet apart.

Care: Young plant need a fertilizer with medium nitrogen and mature plants need a high nitrogen level.

Harvest: Harvest in the spring and early summer. Plants raised from sets can be pulled lightly the first year and heavily there after. Harvest by gripping the base of the stem and twist while pulling it up and out. Rhubarb will last up to 20 years.

Forcing: If you want to enjoy it earlier and have a more tender sweet crop, cover the plants with straw, a forcing pot, or any 18 inch tall pot that will keep light out Tender pink stems will begin to show a few weeks later.



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