

TOMATOES



FACTS

- Grow Zone: 6 - 11+
- Family: Solanaceae
- Genus: Solanum
- Species: Lycopersicum
- Native To: Central & South America
- Mature Height: 3' - 8'
- Mature Width: 2' - 3'
- Type: Cultivated annual nightshade
- Growth Habit: Dicots, sprawling bush or vine
- Foliage: Green compound pinnate leaves
- Flowers: Yellow with 5 petals, typically self-fertilizing
- Fruit: Edible berry with locular cavities & seeds
- Propagation: Seeds

Why We Love Tomatoes:

This delicious red vegetable is technically a berry! Tomatoes are a staple for vegetable gardens since they are easy to grow from seed and produce lots of delicious fruits for cooking. The different varieties available range from big heirlooms to small grape-sized tomatoes.

LIGHT

Full sun, at least 8 hours per day.

Tomatoes are a warm season crop, they cannot handle frost.

WATER

Need to stay hydrated in hot weather.

Aim for 1 - 2 inches per week minimum.

Slow, deep waterings are better than shallow ones.

SOIL

Slightly acidic to neutral, loamy, well-draining soil.

Fertilize every 4 to 6 weeks, starting 1 to 2 weeks after transplanting outside.

Avoid too much nitrogen.

FYI: Prune the lowest leaves and keep soil warm for best yields. All varieties benefit from support structures. Susceptible to slugs, aphids, & other pests.

INTERESTING VARIETIES:

- *S. lycopersicum* 'Red Cherry'
- *S. lycopersicum* 'Roma'
- *S. lycopersicum* 'Gold Nugget'
- *S. lycopersicum* 'Super Sweet 100'
- *S. lycopersicum* 'Green Zebra'
- *S. lycopersicum* 'Cherokee Purple'
- *S. lycopersicum* 'Beefsteak'
- *S. lycopersicum* 'Better Boy'
- *S. lycopersicum* 'San Marzano'
- *S. lycopersicum* 'Black Krim'
- *S. lycopersicum* 'Granny Smith'
- *S. lycopersicum* 'Big Rainbow'
- *S. lycopersicum* 'Mortgage Lifter'

Call & visit for more tips:

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