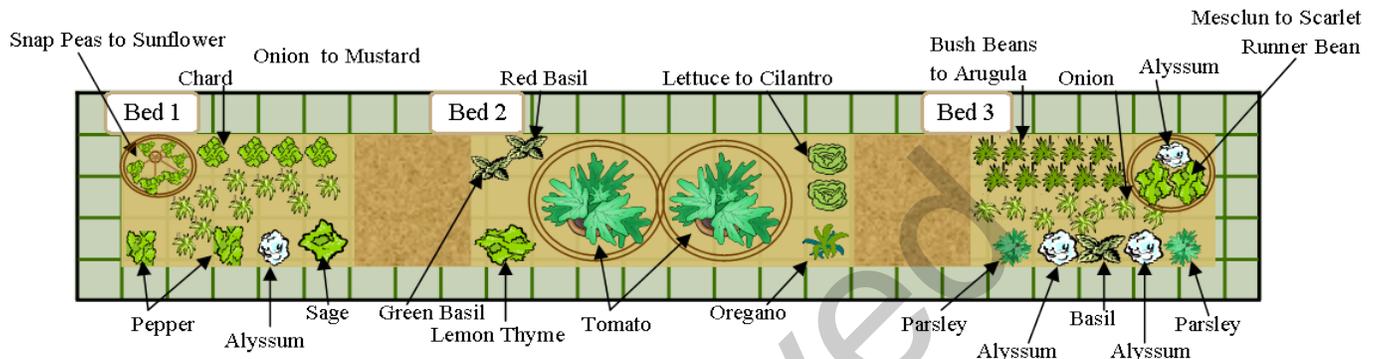


Year One: Garden Plan

GE 134
2011



Getting Started

Footprint: 3 x 24 ft (each block in map = 1 sq. ft.)

For the Trellises:

- (12) 5 ft. slender sticks or bamboo poles
- Cotton string or twine
- Use for snap peas & scarlet runner beans

For the Tomatoes:

- (2) 5 ft. tall tomato cages

The Plants:

Bed 1 (3ft. x 5ft.):

- Chard (1 packet of seeds)
- Sunflower (1 packet of seeds)
- Mustard (1 packet of seeds)
- Onion (10 sets)
- Peppers (2 transplants)
- Snap Peas (1 packet of seeds)
- Sweet Alyssum (4 or 6 pack transplants)
- Sage (1 transplant)

Bed 2 (3ft x 8ft):

- Cilantro (1 packet of seeds)
- Oregano (1 transplant)
- Lemon Thyme (2 transplants)
- Mixed Lettuce (1 packet of seeds)
- Basil (2 transplants)
- Tomato (2 transplants)

Bed 3 (3ft x 5ft):

- Arugula (1 packet of seeds)
- Basil (2 transplants)
- Mesclun-mixed salad greens (1 packet of seeds)
- Onion (10 sets)
- Parsley (2 transplants)
- Scarlet Runner Bean (1 packet of seeds)
- Snap Beans-bush variety (1 packet of seeds)
- Sweet Alyssum 4 or 6 pack transplants)

General Planting Tips:

After the last frost passes:

- Plant warm season crops (tomatoes and peppers) only after danger of frost is past. Mix 1/2 cup of lime with soil in the planting hole to prevent blossom end rot. Water each transplant with a soluble fertilizer.
- Pound in stakes or install tomato cages, at planting time, to prevent plant damage later.
- Set out herbs in pots or plant in garden beds.

In June:

- Plant a second crop of beans.
- Learn to ID beneficial insects and keep an eye out for possible pest problems.
- Hand pick cabbage worms from broccoli and other members of the cabbage family.
- Pinch off tomato suckers to encourage larger, earlier fruit, especially if training to one central stem.

Planting Schedule

Plants	Spring Planting Date	Planting Depth (Inches)	Planting Distance (Inches)
Snap Peas	March 15–May 1	1"	3"
Onions *	April 1–May 1		3 to 4"
Oregano *	May 1 to June 15		8 to 12"
Parsley	April 1 to May 1	1/4"	6 to 8"
Chard	April 15" to June 15"	1/2"	12 to 18"
Lettuce	March 15 to June 1	1/4"	8 to 12"
Tomatoes *	May 1 to June 15		18 to 30"
Peppers *	May 15–June 10		18 to 24"
Snap Beans	May 5 to June 30	1 to 1 1/2"	1 to 2"
Sunflowers	May 1 to June 15	1/2"	18 to 30"
Scarlet Runner Beans	March 15–May 1	1"	3"
Basil *	May 1 to June 15		8 to 12"
Sage *	May 1 to June 15		8 to 12"
Thyme *	May 1 to June 15		8 to 12"
Alyssum *	May 1 to June 15		8 to 12"
Mustard	July 20–August 20	1/4"	12"

*Dates are for setting out transplants

Late Summer:

- Sow seeds of broccoli, cauliflower, turnips, beets and other fall crops in late July.
- Sow seeds of squash, beans and cucumbers through the end of July.
- Monitor squash and pumpkin vines for squash vine borers. If leaves are wilting, or you see holes in the lower stems, with sawdust-like frass around the holes, slit the stem above the hole with a razor and remove the larva. Then mound soil around the injured stem.
- Harvest onions when tops die back; let them dry in the garden after digging them up, or tie the stems together and hang them up in a garage or attic with good air circulation. Store onions in a cool, dry place.

Fall:

- Dig up small herb plants, pot them in soil-less mix and bring them indoors for winter use. A sunny window, or cool, white fluorescent lights will help keep them productive. Keep them away from excessive heat or drafts, and turn down the thermostat at night.
- Build new garden beds by sheet mulching: cut grass low, cover with sections of newspaper, then with layers of organic matter, such as compost, leaves, garden clippings, kitchen scraps; top with a thick layer of straw or other mulch.
- Start collecting newspaper, and paper bags for sheet mulching in the spring.

References:

HG16 Planting Dates for Vegetable Crops in Maryland
GE003 Monthly Tips for Food Gardeners

Do you have a plant or insect pest question?

Visit us at extension.umd.edu/hgic

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