

TIPS AND FAQS

UPON ARRIVAL

When you receive your plants, immediately open the package to give your plants some fresh air and remove your plants from the box. Preferably open your box outside or somewhere that you don't mind getting messy, as some of the soil may have been shaken loose in transit.

Remove the plastic bag and sleeve from around the potted plant and discard any packing material clinging to the leaves or soil.

WATER

Water your plants immediately after taking them out of the box. Give them enough water so that the soil appears damp and water trickles out the bottom of the pot.

IF PLANTS APPEAR DRY

Sometimes plants may appear dried out and wilted after the voyage. Do not despair. Generally, when this happens the foliage may look lackluster but the rootstock is still perfectly healthy and alive. To plump your plants back up, water them and wait 5 minutes and then water them again. This will generally rehydrate them. Keep these plants well-watered until you can re-plant them into larger containers or in the garden.

If plants arrive dry, it is often because the roots have outgrown the small shipping pots and need more room to grow; roots tend to dry out quickly in small containers. This also means your plants are very much alive and when you transplant them into larger pots or the earth, they will start growing quickly! So, re-plant them as soon as possible.

YELLOW OR BROWN LEAVES

When you receive your plants, there may be some yellowed or browned foliage on the plant. This is normal. Pull those leaves off your plant. This will encourage new leaves to grow.

TIME TO PLANT!

Your plants are now ready to be replanted! Pick a container or area of the garden that you wish to place your plants. Give the soil you are about to plant into a nice deep watering before planting your plant. Pop your plants out of the shipping containers, replant, and water again.

We recommend replanting in the morning or evening when outside temperatures are not at extremes. This will allow for proper water uptake from the roots.

TIPS

These Beefsteak Tomatoes are the first we've ever seen that excel in containers on the patio. We love this, because it keeps them close by when we want to munch, and helps protect them from critters. However, they do great directly in the garden as well if you prefer.

To encourage bushier Basil plants with more foliage for harvesting, cut off any flowers that may form. You can pick the foliage and use it fresh or lay it on a cookie sheet over night to dry the herb, storing it in a bag or plastic container until ready to use.

WHEN TO HARVEST

The tomatoes will be ready in about 45-50 days from the time of planting. You may start harvesting basil foliage in about 30 days after planting.



Our Warranty
(Annuals and Tropical Plants)

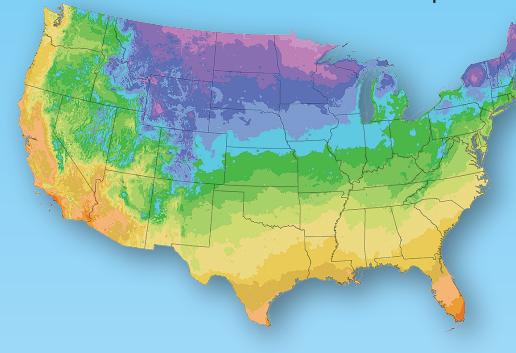
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Plant Hardiness Zone Map



1-800-428-9726

Monday - Friday 8:30AM - 4:30PM EST

Thank you
for bringing us into your home

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Roberta's, P.O. Box 368, Waldron, IN 46182



ROBERTA'S GARDENS
PLANTING AND GROWING GUIDE



Basil & Tomato Collection
(Ocimum basilicum & Solanum lycopersicum)



QUICK REFERENCE PLANTING GUIDE

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| LIGHT/SUN EXPOSURE: | Full Sun |
| USDA HARDINESS ZONES: | 9-11 |
| PLANT TYPE | Annual |
| PLANTING DISTANCE: | Basil - 10-12" / Tomato – 36" |
| MATURE HEIGHT/SPREAD: | Basil H 12-14" W 12-14" Tomato H 36-48" W 24-36" |
| BLOOM TIME: | Summer to Autumn |

PLANTING GUIDE

1
STEP

Remove plastic bag and/or sleeve from around potted plant(s). Discard any packing material clinging to the leaves or soil. Pull away any yellow or brown leaves that may have occurred during transit. If you cannot plant it into garden or larger pot within a few days, make sure it stays well watered.

2
STEP

Water your plants just before popping them out of the shipping containers. Transplant into the garden or containers as soon as evening temperatures stay above 50F. Dig holes the width of the root ball and about 4-6 inches deep. Place them in the holes and pack soil around the roots, filling the hole and making sure all the roots are covered with soil. Water them well again.

3
STEP

In containers, pick a pot that is at least 8-12 inches wide for the Basil and 16-24 inches wide for the tomatoes. Alternatively, you may use a larger pot and plant them together. Ensure containers have good drainage holes.

4
STEP

It is important to keep your tomatoes and basil well watered, especially during the first couple months. Try not to let them dry out for prolonged periods of time. They do best with regular deep watering. In hot weather regions, this may be every other day.

5
STEP

Planted now, you may start harvesting foliage from your basil in about 30 days and in about 45-50 days your tomatoes will begin to ripen.

CONTINUING CARE

SHELF LIFE

Plant into garden or larger pots and place outside immediately after the night temperatures stay above 40 degrees.

PLANT PREPARATION

Remove plastic bag and sleeve from around potted plant(s). Discard any packing material clinging to the leaves or soil. Pull away any yellow or brown leaves that may have occurred during transit. If you cannot plant it into garden or larger pot within a few days, make sure it stays well-watered.

PLANTING DEPTH AND SPACING

Dig a hole that is about 4-6" deep and about twice the width of the root ball. After you've placed the plant in the hole, cover with soil ensuring all the roots have been covered. In the garden, space basil about 10-12" apart and tomatoes about 36" apart.

POTTED PLANTS

Rather than in the garden you may re-pot into large containers. Re-pot the Basil into pots that are about 8-12" wide and the Tomatoes in pots that are about 16-24" wide. This will allow your container to fill out nicely. You may also plant multiple plants together in an even larger pot.

SOIL PREPARATION

They like bagged potting mixes for houseplants that will drain well. Most garden centers carry various brand names with perlite, vermiculite, soil and sand.

GARDEN LOCATION

They love sunny spots with good drainage. If your soil is clayish, amend it with standard garden soil for adequate drainage.

PLANT HEIGHT AND WIDTH

The Basil grows about 12-14 inches tall and wide. The Tomatoes grow about 36-48 inches tall and 24-36 inches wide.

WATER

Water upon planting and keep soil rich and moist. Mulch the plants to help moisture in and be sure to water extra if heavy heat or dry spells occur.

FERTILIZER

They respond to feeding with a high bloom fertilizer like Roberta's Bounty. Fertilizing every two weeks is recommended.

LIGHTING

In the summer growing season full sun is the best. Tomatoes need as much sun as possible, Basil can take slightly less if necessary.

BLOOMING

Under correct conditions the Basil will be ready for harvesting within about 30 days and the Tomatoes in 45-50 days.

TEMPERATURE ZONE

These are annuals and cannot handle a freeze. In warm winter areas your Basil may continue all through winter.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE



Shipped
As Shown

