

KITCHEN GARDEN JOURNAL



2018



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Garden

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"Black Cascade"**
Hanging Basket Blackberry



**Raspberry
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Dwarf Patio Raspberry



**Blueberry
"Blue Sapphire"**
Patio Dwarf Blueberry



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Introducing the first ever hanging basket blackberry that is named perfectly due to its Thornless cascading stems. This variety produces masses of sweet tasting berries and it is so easy to maintain!

Harvest period:
August-October
Height: 0.30m (12")
Spread: 0.45m (18")

1x9cm Pot – £6.65 (93210)
3x9cm Pots – £18.50 (93213)

World's first Thornless dwarfing raspberry plant producing an impressive 1.5kg of fruit from each plant with a tasty traditional raspberry flavour. Perfect for the patio or in the garden and can make a unique edible hedge too.

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Height: 1.00m (39")
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1 x 9cm Pot of each Dwarf Patio Fruits | CODE: 93209

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WELCOME

I hope you will find this little journal handy. It is always a good idea to keep a few notes about your plot; it can help you build up a picture of what works well and what doesn't. Make notes about the weather conditions too; these can help you understand why certain things did well one year and not another. You don't have to make copious notes, just a rough drawing of what you are growing where (use page 14) and a list of crops you intend to grow (places throughout the journal). It can also help to jot down reminders below such as in summer, remembering which crops to sow now for winter use.

Also, make a note on page 14 of what grew well and what didn't. It will help you at seed ordering time to decide whether to re-order or to try something different.

Emma



MY PLOT 2018

MUST REMEMBER...

SPRING

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SUMMER

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AUTUMN

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WINTER

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Marshalls
THE VEGETABLE AND FRUIT COMPANY

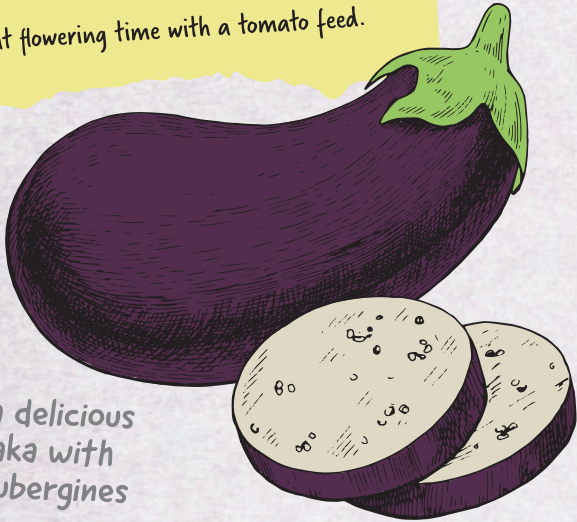
Marshalls is coming up to its 70th birthday, still proud to offer the great British public fruit, vegetable and flower seeds alongside young plants and fruit trees. With generations of experience, Marshalls has perfected tools and accessories which the company has passed on to its customers to help them maintain and nurture their own plot. In its beginnings Marshalls provided more potatoes, onion sets, vegetable seed and soft fruit than any other mail order company; 70 years later, Marshalls still thrives in the mail order sector but has branched out into ordering online too with an extended range of home-grown crops. Visit: www.marshalls-seeds.co.uk to find out more.



MY TOP 20 CROPS

AUBERGINE

- Sow March–April in small pots of multi-purpose compost. Place in propagator or on a warm windowsill. When they have germinated continue to grow on a warm windowsill.
- Pot on as they grow larger. Plant into their final large pot or growing bag in May/June.
- Place in a greenhouse or on a patio after danger of frost has passed.
- Feed at flowering time with a tomato feed.



Make a delicious moussaka with your aubergines



BEANS (FRENCH AND RUNNER)

- Sow in pots or cell trays April–May or direct in the plot from the end of May.
- Keep on a greenhouse bench or in a cold frame or mini greenhouse until all danger of frost has passed. About late May to mid June, depending on where you live, you can plant out on the plot.
- Prepare the soil before planting. Dig in some farmyard manure or garden compost and sprinkle with chicken manure pellets or other general feed.
- Grow climbing beans up canes or other good strong stakes. Tie in as soon as the stems are long enough.



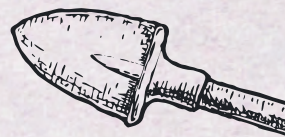
Prepare your soil before planting



BEETROOT

- Prepare the soil well before sowing. Dig in plenty of garden compost or farmyard manure.
- Sow mid April to July and sow little and often – short rows every two weeks – so you get a succession of roots to lift.
- Those sown from June onwards can be stored for winter use.
- Choose bolt resistant varieties to avoid flower shoots forming prematurely. Keep the soil well watered in dry weather to avoid stressing the beetroot, which can result in bolting.

Take extra care of tender plants during these cold winter months

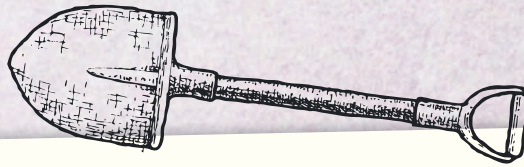


BROCCOLI

- Sow sprouting broccoli for late winter/spring harvest in April/May 2019. Sow direct in a seedbed on the plot and transplant small plants when large enough to handle. Alternatively, sow in cell trays and plant out.
- Firm the ground in well when planting out.
- Stake plants late summer to prevent winter storms knocking them over.
- They will produce sprouts from late winter to April depending on when sown and the variety.



JAN
FEB
MAR



JANUARY

WHAT TO SOW

Salad leaves in trays, broad beans in cell trays under cover, onions, peppers

REMEMBER TO...

- order seeds
- Get pots and trays cleaned ready for sowing
- Dig over plot if soil and weather allows

WHAT TO SOW

Salad leaves, onions, leeks and broad beans in trays under cover. Also sprouting seeds, tomatoes and peppers in a greenhouse

REMEMBER TO...

- (hit seed potatoes by placing in trays, the buds (eyes) upwards. A cool, light, frost-free place is ideal
- Clean cold frames or greenhouse before filling with seedlings
- Make some wooden labels and paint them ready for sowing time

FEBRUARY



MARCH

WHAT TO SOW

Salad leaves, lettuce, broad beans, radish, peas, carrots, parsnip, onions & leeks undercover, summer cabbage and calabrese in modules, tomatoes & peppers in a greenhouse.

REMEMBER TO...

- Put out some cloches to warm up the soil beneath to aid early sowings which can start at the end of the month
- Rake over soil ready for sowing

MY TOP 20 CROPS



Cauliflower loves a sunny spot on your plot



CAULIFLOWER

- Sow from March to June in nursery rows, transplanting when 15cm (6in) tall. Alternatively, start off in cell trays, hardening off before planting out.
- Choose a sunny spot and a fertile soil, well drained and preferably one which has been manured the previous winter.
- Firm the soil well prior to planting and plant 60cm (24in) apart before covering with netting against birds and butterflies.
- Break the guard leaves over the curd as it reaches maturity to prevent sun scorch.

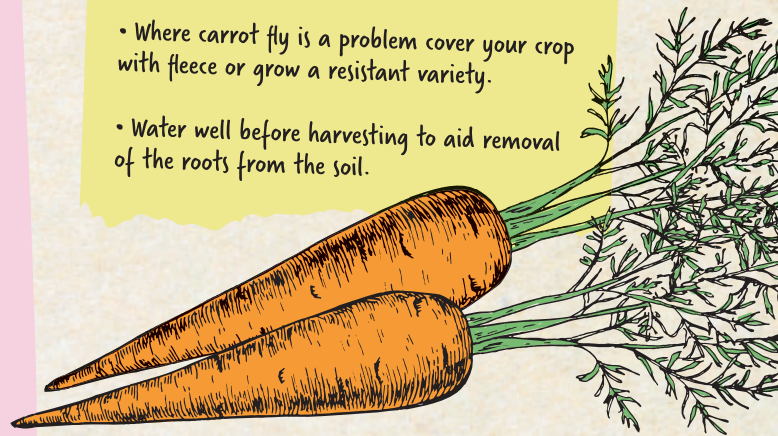


Sow carrots in large pots

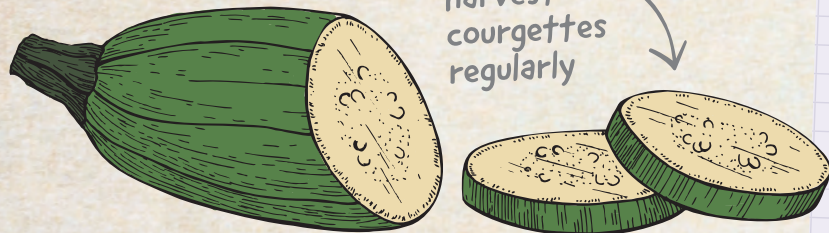


CARROTS

- Sow thinly from March-July in a sunny, well-drained spot which has not been previously manured. Can also be sown in large pots.
- Avoid thinning as this can attract carrot fly. If necessary remove thinnings from the area to avoid attracting the pest.
- Where carrot fly is a problem cover your crop with fleece or grow a resistant variety.
- Water well before harvesting to aid removal of the roots from the soil.



Harvest courgettes regularly



COURGETTE

- Courgettes are tender plants and should be sown in April or May for planting out after the final frost – the beginning of June in most areas.
- Sow individually in small pots and place in a heated propagator at 15C (60F) until germinated.
- Pot on as required until planting out into a fertile, well-drained soil in full sun. Planting on a slight mound can assist drainage away from the stem, which is prone to rotting in the early stages.
- Harvest regularly to encourage more fruits to form and feed and water regularly to maintain growth and deter powdery mildew.

CHARD

- Chard can be sown all year round as salad leaves or from March to July for mature plants. Avoid sowing during hot, dry weather or plants may bolt.
- Thin the seedlings to 15-23cm (6-9in) apart, adding the thinnings to salads or lightly steaming or stir-frying as you would spinach.
- Harvest by removing individual leaves or whole plants as required.
- Chard is a biennial going to seed in its second year when it should be replaced.



Harvest leaves as required





APRIL

WHAT TO SOW

Beetroot, lettuce, salad leaves, kohlrabi, carrots, parsnips, peas, broad beans, runner beans (under cover), dwarf beans (under cover), summer and winter cabbage, Brussels sprouts, cauliflower, leeks, broccoli, summer radish, celery/celeriac, endive, spinach, perpetual spinach, tomatoes, peppers, aubergines

REMEMBER TO...

- Make a bean trench in preparation for planting out runner beans
- Earth up potatoes as the shoots emerge to protect from frost
- Pot on tomatoes, peppers and aubergines as they outgrow their containers to maintain growth



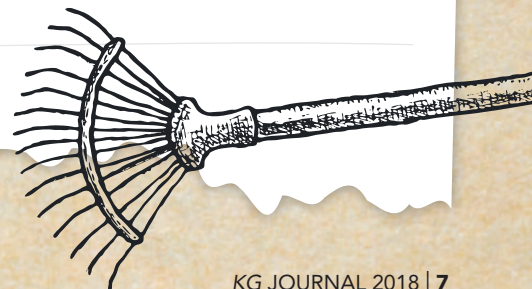
WHAT TO SOW

Tender beans, courgettes, marrows, squashes, lettuces, chicory, radicchio, carrots, radish, herbs, winter cabbage, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cauliflowers, kale, spring onions, salad leaves, cucumbers, melons, sweetcorn, beetroot, Swiss chard, swede, turnips

REMEMBER TO...

- Sow lettuce every two weeks to provide a succession of harvests
- Support the shoots of cucumbers as the plants develop by tying them to their supports regularly
- Cut asparagus just below soil level with a sharp knife when 13-15cm (5-6in) long

MAY

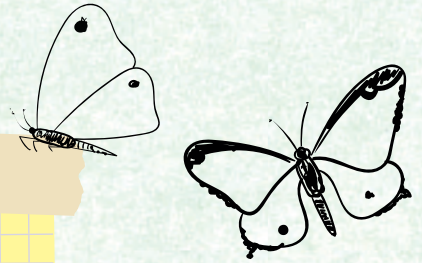


MY TOP 20 CROPS

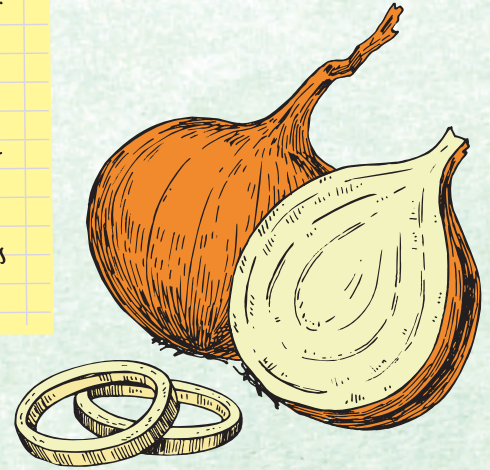


KALE

- Kale can be grown for much of the year as a nutritious salad leaf, or for winter harvests from mature plants sown from March to June.
- Plant in well-manured soil in a sunny or semi-shaded spot around 60cm (24in) apart.
- Cover to protect from birds and cabbage white butterflies.
- These tall plants may require some support on windy or exposed sites during the winter.
- Harvest whole plants from October onwards or pick individual leaves as required.



Cover kale to protect from insects



GARLIC

- Garlic can be planted in October/November or again in February/March into well drained and reasonably fertile soil. Choose a spot in full sunshine for best results.
- Split the bulbs into individual cloves and remove any loose skins prior to planting.

- Plant 2.5cm (1in) below the soil, pointed end upright. Rows should be 10cm (4in) apart with 45cm (18in) between rows.
- Harvest when the leaves turn yellow in July and store in a cool, dry place.
- Water during dry spells.



Store in a cool dry place

ONIONS

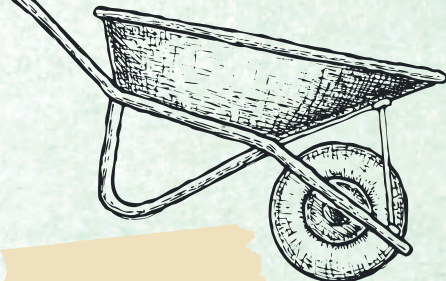
- Grow from sets (little bulbs) planted in autumn or spring or from seeds sown from January to March.
- Plant sets in well-prepared fertile soil, spacing them 10cm (4in) apart in the rows with rows 30cm (12in) apart. Plant each bulb with the point just above the surface.
- Cover in the early stages to prevent birds from pulling sets out of the ground.
- If growing from seeds sow as early as possible in the new year. Grow in cell trays and place in a heated propagator or on a heated mat at 10-15C (50-60F).

Protect leaves from being munched by slugs and snails

LETTUCE

- Lettuce can be harvested nearly all year round with successional sowing and by choosing the right varieties.
- Sow little and often direct in the ground or in containers, scattering the seeds thinly and barely covering with compost or vermiculite. Avoid sowing in hot conditions as germination may be poor.
- Protect crops from slugs and snails using your favoured form of slug control and water well during dry spells to maintain growth and prevent bolting.
- Thinnings can be used in salads and if you have a glut why not try lettuce soup, hot or cold?





JUNE

Lined writing area for June notes.

WHAT TO SOW

Runner/climbing beans, French beans, carrots, chicory, endive, lettuce, kale, kohlrabi, peas, beetroot, winter cabbage (early in the month), radish, swedes, sweetcorn, turnips

REMEMBER TO...

- Water young seedlings regularly during dry spells
- Remove weeds by regular hoeing or by hand, close to the stems of growing crops
- Harvest early potatoes after first digging around a plant to see if the tubers have swelled



WHAT TO SOW

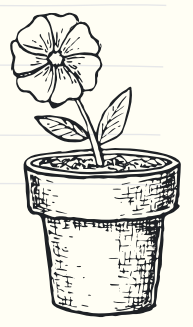
Salad leaves*, Swiss chard, perpetual spinach, radish* (including winter types), lettuce*, coriander*, (chinese leaves, chicory, endive, kohlrabi, peas, spinach*, turnips
*Avoid sowing in hot weather

JULY

Lined writing area for July notes.

REMEMBER TO...

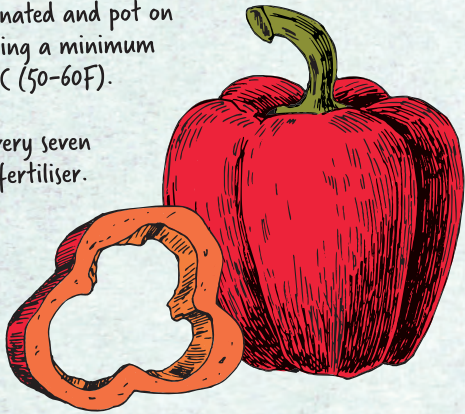
- Sow peas now for some late summer harvests
- Tend to your tomatoes, removing sideshoots from cordon types and tying stems to supports
- Harvest courgettes regularly to encourage more to form



MY TOP 20 CROPS

PEPPERS

- Tender peppers come in two types, hot and sweet. Some are perennial, but plants are usually treated as annuals.
- They both require a long growing season and are best sown as soon as possible from January to March.
- Sow in cell trays or small pots and place in a heated propagator set to 18-25C (64-77F). Water and cover.
- Uncover once germinated and pot on as required maintaining a minimum temperature of 10-15C (50-60F).
- Feed your plants every seven days with a tomato fertiliser.



SPINACH

- Spinach is packed with nutrients and antioxidants and can be grown virtually all year round for salads or stir-fries.
- Sow direct in full sun or partial shade. The soil should be fertile and free draining. Alternatively sow into troughs and containers at regular intervals to provide a long harvest.
- Hot, dry conditions can lead to premature flowering so avoid sowing in these conditions and water well.
- Harvest by picking off individual leaves as required or lift whole plants.
- New Zealand spinach is a milder form that can be picked all summer from a spring sowing.



POTATOES

- Buy your seed tubers as soon as they become available to give you the widest choice of varieties.
- Most benefit from chitting, i.e. placing in trays with the eyes uppermost. Place the trays in a cool, frost free, light place to form short, stocky shoots.
- Plant out in March where they are to grow, early varieties 30cm (12in) apart in the rows with rows 60cm (24in) apart and maincrop types 40cm (16in) apart in the rows and 75cm (30in) between rows.
- As the shoots emerge from the soil, draw up earth over these to protect them from frost and to encourage longer stems on which the tubers form.



Water potatoes well during dry spells

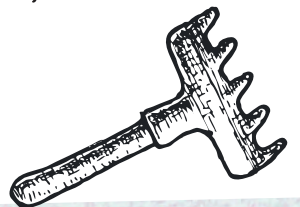


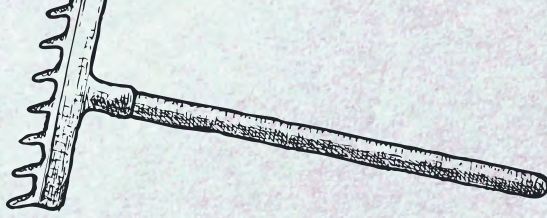
Radish is a tasty addition to your salads



RADISH

- Summer radishes are quick and easy to grow. Choose a reasonably sunny spot although shade is better for summer sowings to avoid bolting.
- The soil should be fertile to ensure that growth is rapid and roots remain tender and not woody.
- Sow thinly direct into the ground or in pots and containers from March to August.
- Thin as plants develop to leave 2.5cm (1in) between roots and remove weeds regularly.
- Take precautions against slugs which will nibble the leaves and roots.
- Harvest while the roots are young and tender.





AUGUST

WHAT TO SOW

Lettuces, spring onions, radish (including winter types), leaf beet, land cress, spring cabbage, oriental cabbage, carrots, endive, salad leaves, kohlrabi, autumn onions, turnips

REMEMBER TO...

- Continue to pick climbing and dwarf beans, courgettes and tomatoes to encourage further ripening
- Plant potatoes for second cropping, choosing a suitable variety such as 'Charlotte' or 'Carlingford' and grow in bags under cover to avoid potato blight
- Harvest sweetcorn once the tassels have turned brown and milky liquid oozes from the kernels when pierced with the fingernail



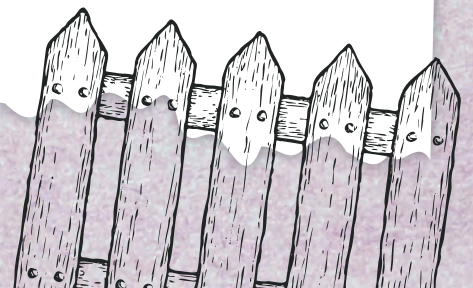
WHAT TO SOW

Spring lettuce, winter spinach, oriental leaves, pak choi, salad leaves, turnips, hardy green manures

REMEMBER TO...

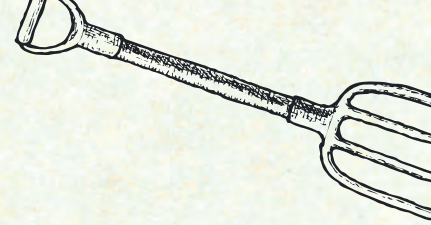
- Sow a green manure on bare patches of soil to prevent winter rains from washing away nutrients. Vetch, mustard and rye can be sown now
- Plant autumn onions
- Sow late salads such as lettuce and salad leaves in pots for a crop in about six weeks' time

SEPTEMBER



MY TOP 20 CROPS

Pumpkins are great in recipes or carve them for Halloween

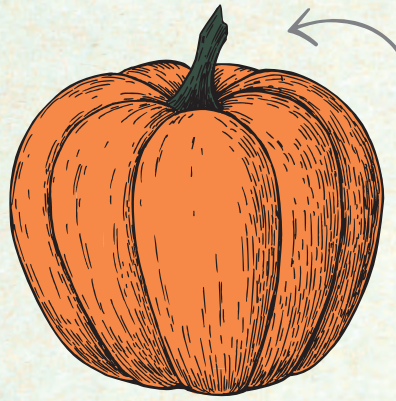


SQUASHES (AND PUMPKINS)

• You can sow squash and pumpkin seeds outdoors in late May/early June, or start them off undercover late April in 7.5cm (3in) pots. Sow seeds on their side to prevent rotting.

• For those started off undercover, harden off first and then plant out when all risk of frost has passed at least 90-150cm (3-5ft) apart, depending on variety.

• Keep the bed weed free and well watered, especially during dry spells. Water around the plant so that it gets to the roots. When fruits start to appear, feed with a high potash solution (tomato food) every 10 days or so.



• Harvest winter squash in autumn before the first frosts. Cut leaves away from the fruit to encourage maturation. Store in a cool, dry and frost-free place such as a garden shed.

SALAD LEAVES

• Spice up your salads by growing a range of leaves, including rocket, mizuna, oriental mustards, baby spinach, red sorrel and lamb's lettuce

• Sow April to August outdoors or all year round undercover. Seeds should be sown to a depth of 0.5cm (1/4- 1/2in), 15cm (6in) apart. A cloche might be necessary for early sowings.

• Grow successionaly for a steady supply and protect plants with your preferred slug deterrent

• Harvest as whole plants or thinnings or grow in pots as a cut-and-come-again crop.



Ready to harvest when they ooze a milky liquid



TOMATOES

• Sow seeds about 6mm (1/4in) deep in seed trays or pots filled with compost from March to April. Place in a heated propagator or warm windowsill 15-18C (55-65F).

• When plants are large enough to handle, prick them out into 9cm (3 1/2in) pots when two true leaves (not the seed leaves) have formed.

• Plant out when all risk of frost has passed 75cm (30in) apart or, if growing under cover, move to 23cm (9in pots or bigger), or into growing bags.

• Cordon varieties will need supporting with canes and their sideshoots pinching out.



SWEETCORN

• Start off seeds in deep cell trays, Rootainers or toilet roll tubes undercover in April. Use multi-purpose compost and sow to a depth of 2.5cm (1in).

• Plant out after all risk of frost has passed, 45cm (18in) each way, in blocks rather than rows. As sweetcorn is wind pollinated this planting formation helps the process.

• Water regularly and keep weed free. You may need to stake your sweetcorn if your plot is exposed to strong winds.

• Harvest August to September. Wait for the silks on the cobs to go brown, peel back the husk and prick a grain with your thumb nail. If it oozes a milky liquid, it is ready to harvest.



OCTOBER

WHAT TO SOW

Lettuce, salad leaves, leaf beet, endive and winter spinach

REMEMBER TO...

- Plant autumn onion sets such as 'Senshyu' and 'Electric' for an earlier crop next year
- Lift beetroot, twisting off foliage rather than cutting to avoid plant bleeding
- Harvest autumn raspberries and tie in any canes that are drooping

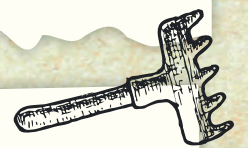
WHAT TO SOW

Broad beans, peas, endive (winter varieties)

REMEMBER TO...

- Fit grease bands to fruit trees such as apples and pears to prevent winter moth females making their way up the tree to lay their eggs
- Cut yellowing asparagus ferns down to just above soil level
- Collect leaves to create excellent compost in a year's time. Place moist leaves in a bin liner, pierce with a garden fork to allow in air and then revisit in a year's time

NOVEMBER



DECEMBER

WHAT TO SOW

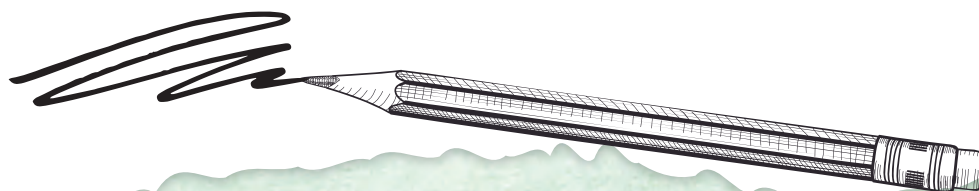
Broad beans, endive (winter types), onions

REMEMBER TO...

- Start winter digging, incorporating lots of organic matter into the soil to improve its texture and fertility
- Lift and divide old rhubarb crowns. Slice through the root with a spade, separating new growth for replanting and discarding the 'tired' centre
- Start pruning fruit bushes. Remove old, dead or diseased stems and crossing branches

MY PLOT THIS YEAR

You can use this space to draw a rough plan of your veg plot this year and what is to be grown where. This can be helpful for crop rotation. Make a note too, of what grows well, what didn't and what you might do differently next season



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THE NEW ROBINSONS VICTORIAN

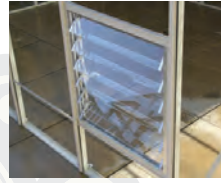
This new Robinsons Victorian range offers you a choice of greenhouses with a distinctive Victorian style.



Extra height for specimen plants



Optional creasting & finials



Louvre side vents

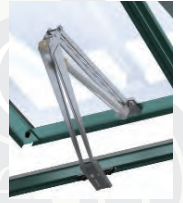


Strong box section glazing bars

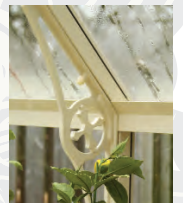


Screw-in bar capping system

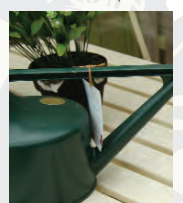
**9x12
Robinsons Radley
RRP £12380
NOW £6180**



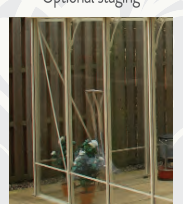
Automatic roof vents



Cast aluminium spandrels



Optional staging



Extend to any length

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Ivory Old Cottage Green Anthracite Pastel Sage



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The leading maintenance-free hybrid greenhouse

EVOLUTION

Frame

The frame is made from Canadian Western Red Cedar, which is extremely high in natural preservative oils which, even without further artificial treatment, make it virtually immune from decay. Unlike some other cedar brands, all Alton Evolution greenhouses are factory treated in Clear preservative for a natural finish.



High eaves
The high eaves height (5'7") gives you plenty of headroom and room for a high level shelf.



Louvres
Louvres draw in cool fresh air to keep down temperature as well as the risk of pests and diseases.

Metal base

The metal base (included on all models) keeps the wood away from the floor and enables the glass to overlap the wooden frame so no water sits on the Cedar.



Auto-vents

Included as standard, these open roof vents automatically as the greenhouse warms up - keeping your plants from overheating.



Toughened safety glass
Glazed throughout with toughened safety glass as standard, for strength and safety. The large panes have a much more pleasant appearance than old fashioned overlapping panes.



Downpipe system
Includes a full length aluminium gutter each side and a downpipe each side. This not only keeps water away from the side of the greenhouse, but also helps you to collect this vital resource.



Bar capping
This model shows the optional Aluminium bar capping system upgrade. With this system, there is very little Cedar exposed to the elements.



Low level threshold
Specially designed aluminium door runner and low level threshold - gives you easy access with no step at the doorway. This 5ft wide and 6ft wide models have a single door and the wider models a generous 4ft wide double door.



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