

A Calendar for Timing Seed Starts and Transplants

(Courtesy of Platt Hill Nursery)

Many warm-season crops, like tomatoes, peppers, and pumpkins, need a long growing season and are frost-sensitive. It helps to give them a jump on the season indoors to avoid the uncertain weather of early spring and ensure they have enough time to mature. Some cool-season crops—like cabbage, broccoli, and Brussels sprouts—also need several months to yield a harvest. Starting them inside gives you a taste of these delicious crops much sooner!

Here's an approximate schedule for starting seeds based on the last frost date of May 15th in our area. Depending on where you live, your last frost date may come sooner or later. Double-check your local dates and adjust your schedule accordingly. As you'll notice below, many cool-season crops can be transplanted before the last frost date.

Vegetable Seed	Seed Starting Time	Transplanting Time
Basil	Mar 19 – Apr 3	May 15 – June 5
Bell Peppers	Mar 5 – Mar 19	May 22 – June 5
Broccoli	Mar 19 – Apr 3	April 17 – May 8
Cabbage	Mar 19 – Apr 3	April 17 – May 3
Celery	Mar 5 – Mar 19	May 22 – June 5
Cucumbers	Apr 17 – 24	April 29 – June 12
Kale	Mar 19 – Apr 3	April 17 – May 8
Lettuce	Apr 3 – 17	May 1 - 29
Oregano	Mar 5 – Apr 3	May 15 – June 5
Pumpkins	Apr 24 – May 8	May 29 – Jun 12
Swiss Chard	Mar 27 – Apr 17	Apr 24 – May 1
Tomatoes	Mar 19 – Apr 3	May 22 – June 12