

Moonflower Vine

Ipomoea alba

At a Glance

- Height: 10 to 15 feet tall (climbing vine)
- Bloom Colors: Large white fragrant blooms
- Bloom Time: Summer evenings through fall
- Days to Maturity: 90-100 days
- Best For: Night gardens, fragrant trellises, moonlit displays

Growing Conditions Quick Reference

- Soil Temperature: 65-75F for best germination
- Soil Type: Well-drained, moderately fertile soil
- Light Requirements: Full sun
- Planting Depth: 1/4 inch deep
- Seeding Rate: Sow 2-3 seeds per hole, thin to strongest seedling
- Plant Spacing: 12-18 inches apart
- Moisture Needs: Moderate; keep soil evenly moist
- Average Germination Time: 7-14 days (soak seeds overnight to improve germination)

How to Grow

- When to Plant: Direct sow after last frost when soil is warm.
- Location: Full sun with a sturdy trellis or fence for support.
- Spacing: Thin to 12-18 inches apart.
- Watering: Moderate; avoid waterlogging.
- Fertilizer: Minimal; too much fertilizer produces more leaves than blooms.

Tips for Success

- Nick or soak seeds overnight for better germination.
- Provide strong vertical support.
- Plant where evening blooms can be enjoyed.
- Remove spent blooms to encourage more flowering.

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Fun Fact

Moonflowers open in the evening and release a sweet fragrance that attracts nighttime pollinators like moths.

Companion Planting

Pairs well with morning glories for blooms both day and night. Avoid overcrowding with other vines.

Harvesting and Use

Enjoy as an ornamental vine. Seeds can be saved after pods mature and dry on the vine.

Quick Planting Checklist

- Soak or nick seeds before planting
- Sow outdoors after frost
- Provide trellis or support
- Thin to 12-18 inches apart
- Enjoy evening blooms all summer