

# White Boer Pumpkin

*Cucurbita maxima* 'White Boer'

## At a Glance

Height/Spread:	Vines 10–15 feet, sprawling growth
Fruit Size:	20–40 lbs (commonly 20–28 lbs, can reach up to 40 lbs)
Days to Maturity:	90–110 days
Best For:	Decorative use, carving, fall displays, roasting, baking

## Growing Conditions Quick Reference

Soil Temperature:	70–95°F for best germination
Soil Type:	Rich, well-drained soil with added compost
Light Requirements:	Full sun (6–8+ hours daily)
Planting Depth:	1 inch deep
Seeding Rate:	2–3 seeds per hill
Plant Spacing:	Thin to 2–3 plants per hill; hills 4–6 feet apart
Moisture Needs:	Moderate to high; keep evenly moist but not waterlogged
Average Germination Time:	7–10 days in warm soil

## How to Grow

**When to Plant:** Direct sow after last frost when soil is warm (70°F+). Start indoors 2–3 weeks before last frost if short season.

**Location:** Full sun; give plenty of room for vines to sprawl.

**Spacing:** Sow in mounds/hills, 4–6 feet apart. Thin to strongest 2–3 seedlings.

**Watering:** Deep watering 1–2 times weekly; avoid wetting foliage to reduce mildew risk.

**Fertilizer:** Heavy feeder — enrich soil with compost before planting, side-dress with balanced fertilizer when vines begin running and again when fruits set.

## Tips for Success

- Mulch around plants to retain soil moisture and reduce weeds.
- Train vines to sprawl away from main garden crops.
- Hand-pollinate blossoms if pollinators are scarce.
- Rotate crops yearly to prevent soil-borne disease buildup.

## **Fun Fact**

The White Boer pumpkin is prized for its smooth white rind, making it ideal for painting, stacking in fall displays, or carving. Its flesh is also delicious when roasted or baked.