



Transplanting Seedlings



Getting Ready to Transplant Outside

The last week that your seedlings are indoors, begin preparing them for life outside by hardening them off.

Place them outside for a few hours a day, sheltered from direct sun and wind. Over the next 7 to 10 days, gradually increase the amount of time they spend outdoors and the amount of direct sunlight, until they spend all day outdoors. Then your plants are ready to transplant!

Colder soil temperatures can shock root systems, especially for warmer weather crops. If you want to plant earlier, try using raised beds, which have warmer soil temperatures.

You'll also want to make sure your soil is ready for seedlings. Gently aerate the soil with hand tools (a broad fork or hand trowel can work), or add soil amendments like compost and aged manure.

When to Transplant

You can transplant seedlings indoors to larger pots as well as outside.

Why might you transplant your seedlings to larger pots indoors? If you started them early in smaller plug trays, you'll want to separate your seedlings to give them more space as they grow, especially if it's still too cold to transplant outside. Egg cartons work great for transplanting!



Generally speaking, only transplant seedlings outside once the danger of frost has passed, but **check our planting & seed saving guide and planting calendar for more info about when to plant!**

Rosebud is located in gardening zone 4; the last frost is usually sometime in May. To be safe, transplant seedlings outside in early June.

How to Transplant

The best time to transplant is on a warm, cloudy day if possible, or at least in the morning. This gives plants time to adjust before the sun is at full strength.

Gently remove the seedlings from their pots, keeping as much of the potting soil around their roots as possible. Only do a few at a time so that the seedlings don't dry out. If older seedlings are root bound (the potting soil is held together by the roots), gently loosen the roots a little bit so that they'll continue to grow in their new home.

Make a hole in the soil large enough for the roots to fit. Gently pat soil around the seedling to hold it upright. If the seedling is leggy (has a long stem), bury some of the stem below the leaves to help it stand up.

After transplanting, always water in your plants. Mulch the soil around your plants to prevent moisture from evaporating and to protect the roots from the sun's heat.

Source

- <https://www.almanac.com/tips-transplanting-seedlings#:~:text=Before%20being%20planted%20into%20the,full%20sun%20and%20windy%20conditions>