

Jalapeño Pepper

Capsicum annuum



General Information

- Edible
- Sun Exposure: Full sun
- Water needs: Moderate
- Temperature: Grows best at temperatures above 60 °F and below 90 °F. Do not plant when frost (below 38°F) might still occur, as this will kill the jalapeño plant
- Days to harvest: 70 to 85 days after transplant of seedlings to outdoor garden
- Harvest season: Mid- to late summer

Planting Guide

- Location: Plant in full sun with rich loamy soil. Avoid planting in an area where you may have recently grown other plants of the nightshade family (tomatoes, potatoes, eggplants), as they can share diseases.
- Compost: Add aged compost to the soil 1 week before planting
- Spacing: Plant 14-24 inches apart from each other in both directions.

Care Guide

- Irrigation: Avoid overwatering your jalapeños. Let the top inch of soil dry out before watering again (2x per week is a good starting point in hot weather). It is also important to avoid moisture on the fruit, so drip irrigation is a good option.
- Pruning: Prune to remove dead or diseased branches or increase productivity and general health. It is best to cut right after a leaf node on a stem, or as close to the stem as possible without harming it. Focus on cutting lower stems, as these have a tendency to touch the soil and contract diseases.

- Pests: The jalapeño plant resists most common pests like aphids, but if these do appear you can either spray them off with water and organic pesticide, or physically remove them if larger like worms or caterpillars.
- Diseases: Avoid planting in zones with species from the nightshade family, as these can spread disease to the jalapeño. Also, watch for sun damage, which can cause the flowers to wilt and die, or the fruit itself to scald. Set up sun shades or move the plant to a cooler place if you notice this issue. Blossom-end rot is another common problem. Identified by dark, sunken spots on the peppers, this issue is usually caused by calcium deficiency from uneven watering or lack of nitrogen in the soil. It can be mitigated with a calcium spray on the foliage and by making sure the soil is consistently moist.

Sources:

<https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/edible/vegetables/pepper/growing-jalapeno-peppers.htm>

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