

# STRAWBERRIES



## PLANTING GUIDE

To plant strawberries, prepare the soil with good drainage and amend it with organic matter. Dig a hole large enough to accommodate the roots, spread them out, and ensure the crown (where stems meet roots) is planted at or just above soil level. Water well after planting and space plants appropriately, usually 12-18 inches apart.

### Detailed Steps:

1. **Choose a Location:** Select a sunny spot (8+ hours of sunlight) with well-draining soil.
2. **Prepare the Soil:** Amend the soil with compost or other organic matter to improve drainage and fertility.
3. **Dig the Holes:** Dig holes 2-3 times the width of the plant's root ball.
4. **Plant the Strawberries:** Place the strawberry plant in the hole, spread out the roots, and ensure the crown is at or just above the soil line.
5. **Backfill and Water:** Fill the hole with soil, gently firm it around the plant, and water well.
6. **Spacing:** Space plants 12-18 inches apart, depending on the variety and planting system.

7. **Care:** Provide regular watering, especially during dry periods. Fertilize as needed, especially if growing in containers.
8. **Mulch:** Consider using mulch (like straw) to help retain moisture and suppress weeds.

#### Tips for Success:

- **Bare root plants:** Soak bare root plants in water for an hour or two before planting.
- **Container gardening:** Use a well-draining potting mix and ensure good drainage holes.
- **Timing:** Plant in spring or fall, depending on your growing zone.
- **Pruning:** Remove old or yellowing leaves to promote healthy growth.
- **Harvesting:** Harvest ripe berries in the morning and refrigerate them promptly.