How to Grow Your Own Radishes

Radishes are one of the first veg that most gardeners try growing as children. But they are rewarding for adults to grow too! Radishes are trouble-free and low-maintenance, and can be sown and harvested in the space of a month.

Radish like rich, light, well-drained soil with very low nitrogen levels. However, they are often used as a catch crop between slower germinating varieties like parsnips and onions. Sow every two weeks for a long supply to jazz up summer salads.



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Harvest

How to look after me

Soil: Any

Position: Sunny, partial shade

Location: Outdoors, container

Sowing

- Prepare the ground by digging over and removing any stones
- Or sow around slow-growing crops like potatoes, parsnips and onions
- Sow seed very thinly about 2.5cm apart and 1cm deep
 - Space rows 15cm apart
 - Sow a few seeds every two weeks for a continuous supply and to avoid a large glut

If you grow radishes in hot weather, they have a hotter, more peppery flavour. They taste milder when grown in cool weather

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Growing

- You should not need to thin seedlings if they were sown according to instructions. If plants are overcrowded, thin to 2.5cm apart
- Never allow radishes to dry out while they are growing or they may split. Water evenly, or heavily in dry weather
- Radishes may become dry and woody in July and August. If you want to grow radishes in high summer, look after them with lots of water



Harvesting

- · Radish are ready to pick three to four weeks after sowing
- Pull radishes as soon as they mature as they will become woody if left in the ground for too long
- Harvest the crop when the radish is the diameter of a 10p coin



David's Top Tip

Save seed for sowing next year by leaving a couple of plants in the ground to flower and produce a seed pod. Collect the seed pods while they are still young and green, then dry them indoors before removing the seeds from the pods

