

# -Ready-to-grow-guide-

## POTTED GARLIC



### Planting

We planted Ontario seed garlic into 4inch pots so when the time comes, you have a plant that is ready to grow in the garden! Transplant in the spring, keep soil moist until roots form; water once per week until temperatures become warm because bulbs mature best in hot dry environments. The beauty of garlic is that it does not use up a lot of space and is a great companion plant to many crops mentioned below in the Pest and Disease section.

### Environment

Garlic is a cool season crop, generally planted in the fall, however we want to allow you to plant in the spring too. Garlic requires full sun and well drained soil. Hard neck varieties produce scapes, these are soft tissue stems that will produce a flower, so removing these will allow the plant to transport energy to the bulb. The scapes are edible and versatile in use, for example they can be used to make a scape pesto!

### Pest and Disease

Garlic is known for its challenges with moulds, however the best way to combat these unfortunate surprises are by using crop rotation. So avoid planting garlic and plants of the same family, such as onions and shallots, within the same area year after year. Companion planting will greatly benefit you. Garlic repels Aphids and is great to plant near roses. Companion plants include beets, Brassicas, celery, lettuce, potatoes, strawberries and tomatoes, but avoid planting near peas and beans. Garlic also has the potential to repel whiteflies, Japanese beetles, root maggots, carrot rust fly and other pests due garlincs sulfuric compounds. Garlic could also be used to make a tea or insecticidal spray to help combat unwanted pests.

### Harvest

Harvest the garlic bulbs when 50-75% of leaves become brown, the top will be starting to dry out at this point. Harvest by gently digging out the garlic bulbs, then cure by drying for 7-10 days. Next, clean bulb by removing the outer skin, stems and leaves. Store in a cool, dry, well-ventilated space for future use.

