



# EGGPLANT

## BASIC CARE

### SUN

Full exposure for at least 6-8 hours a day

### WATER

- Water regularly, especially when young, to maintain consistent soil moisture.
- To water: pour or spray gently around the base of the eggplant, not on the leaves.
- If you have access to mulch, a layer on top can help keep moisture in the soil.
- Do not overwater - if the plant sits in water, it can cause disease.

### HARVESTING

- Each eggplant variety will have a different size/age of maturity. Don't let the eggplant stay on the plant after it reaches maturity or it will start to get tough.
  - > Smaller eggplants will be more tender and sweet, and can be harvested before they're fully mature.
- To harvest: Use clippers or scissors to remove the eggplant between the fruit and the branch it's growing off of. Pulling the eggplant risks damaging the plant.

### STORING

- Eggplants won't store very long, so eat them when you harvest them!
- If you need to store, keep in the refrigerator for up to one week.

## COMMON PROBLEMS

### PLANTS NOT WATERED ENOUGH

Plants may have trouble establishing roots if they don't receive enough water when they're young. Water evenly and often to keep the soil soft for root growth.

### EGGPLANT ROTTING ON THE PLANT

For eggplant fruit rotting on the plant before it's fully mature - remove any diseased fruits/plants, and harvest eggplants when younger to avoid rot.