



SUMMER SQUASH

Zucchini, Yellow Straight Neck, or Crooked Neck

BASIC CARE

SUN

Full exposure 6-8 hours a day

WATER

- Pour water directly into the soil at the base of the plant, not on the leaves or fruits.
- Keep soil consistently moist but not overly wet.
 - > To test: push finger one inch deep into soil, if dry, add water.
- In summer, plants will need almost daily watering.

HARVESTING

- Summer squash normally mature in 35-45 days.
- Harvest squash when they are young for best flavor - look for squash that are about 4-6 inches long and about 1.5 inches thick, depending on variety.
- To harvest, use scissors or shears to cut the stem just above the fruit. Avoid temptation to break off the fruit, it doesn't always separate cleanly.
- Remove fruits as soon as they are ripe to avoid having them take moisture and nutrients from the plant.

STORING

Squash can be stored in a cool location for 2-3 days, but is best eaten soon after harvesting.

COMMON PROBLEMS

SQUASH FLOWERING BUT NOT FRUITING

You may have to hand-pollinate them! Check out this informative [video/guide](#). You can be a matchmaker for squash!

SQUASH BUGS

They'll suck your leaves dry and can be removed by hand, but are more easily controlled if caught early.

SQUASH ROTTING ON VINES

They'll suck your leaves dry and can be removed by hand, but are more easily controlled if caught early.



WINTER SQUASH

Butternut, Acorn Squash, Spagnetti Squash, Pumpkins

BASIC CARE

SUN

Full exposure 6-8 hours a day

WATER

- Pour water directly into the soil at the base of the plant, not on the leaves or fruits.
- Keep soil consistently moist but not overly wet.
 - > To test: push finger one inch deep into soil, if dry, add water.

HARVESTING

- Winter squash normally mature in 80-120 days, and can be planted once soils warm in the spring.
- Winter squash have a hard, protective when mature - don't harvest before this has a chance to develop.
- When ready for harvesting, winter squash should be full color (no green pumpkins!) and the vine will be starting to die.
- Using shears/knife, remove the fruits with the stem attached.

STORING

Store in a cool, dark, dry location.

COMMON PROBLEMS

SQUASH FLOWERING BUT NOT FRUITING

- You may have to hand-pollinate them! Check out this informative video/guide. You can be a matchmaker for squash!
- Because winter squash have a longer maturity time, you'll want to look closely for signs of fruit development and step in to pollinate if needed, before you miss your chance at delicious squash.

SQUASH BUGS

They'll suck your leaves dry and can be removed by hand, but are more easily controlled if caught early.

NOTE: Winter squash are so-called because they are harvested at the end of the summer and generally store better than summer squash - thus making them more available to folks during the winter. You actually plant them in late spring!