
Starting Pepper Seeds Indoors

By GrowHotPeppers.com

Supplies Needed:

Pepper seeds	Planting tray	Container(s)
Cover	Spray bottle	Plant label(s)
Plant heat mat	Grow light (e.g., fluorescent or LED)	Optional: chamomile tea

When To Plant:

Know your last expected date of frost, then count back at least 3 months.

<https://growhotpeppers.com/when-to-plant-pepper-seeds/>

Seed Preparation:

Soak the seeds you intend to plant for 48 to 72 hours in a weak, room-temperature chamomile tea solution.

<https://growhotpeppers.com/germinating-pepper-seeds/>

Planting:

Add pre moistened seed-starting mix to a container ($\frac{3}{4}$ full), sow 3 seeds per container (about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch deep). Cover with mix, add your plant label and spray the top with water.

Put your container(s) on the plant tray, then put the tray on top of the heat mat. Add your lid and be sure to slide open the vents halfway to start, or poke holes in the plastic cling wrap.

Watering:

Use distilled or rain water. Or, let tap water sit out for 24 hours before using. Pour water into the plant tray and wait 15 minutes. Watch for moisture at the top of the grow media. (You may need longer than 15 minutes.) Optionally, add chamomile tea to your waterings until seedlings have at least 2 sets of true leaves. Never your containers sit in moisture after they've been watered.

<https://growhotpeppers.com/watering-pepper-plants/>

Germination:

Check daily for little green, upside-down “U” shapes. After germination, remove seedlings from the heat mat and out from under the lid. Put your seedlings under your grow light. When tall enough, cut away two seedlings (if applicable) leaving the strongest one to grow in the container.

Grow Light:

Position fluorescent lights about 6 inches away from the top of your plants. (LED lights may need to go higher.) An example light schedule is 16 hours on and 8 hours off.

<https://growhotpeppers.com/indoor-grow-lights/>

Indoor Plant Care:

Fertilizing

<https://growhotpeppers.com/fertilizing-your-chillies/>

Potting Up

Move your plant to a larger container after it's at least 2 inches tall and when roots poke through the bottom.

Hardening Off

Safely stress your plants to prepare them for the outdoors.

<https://growhotpeppers.com/hardening-off>

Moving Plants Outside:

After plants have been hardened off, they can go outdoors when the last threat of frost has passed. It also helps to wait until night temps are consistently above 55 degrees Fahrenheit.

If you're going to continue growing in containers, pepper plants can grow in 5-gallon containers or larger. An original EarthBox works well for smaller varieties too!

More On Growing Peppers In Containers:

<https://growhotpeppers.com/growing-peppers-in-containers/>

Grow Hot Peppers YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGgWM5YDsdOb5BQPcZkyf3Q?>

I hope you find this information helpful. Happy growing!